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MANIPUR VIOLENCE

142 killed, 17 missing, State govt. informs SC

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'No sudden shift to natural farming'

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Chandigarh, Kullu see wettest days in history

Increase in normal rainfall in North India

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Lakshya Sen claims Canada Open title

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Rain continues to pound North India, toll rises to 25

300 people, including tourists, stranded in Lahaul-Spiti and Kullu districts of Himachal Pradesh; extensive damage to highways, power stations, water supply systems; PM speaks to CM Sukhu

Vikas Vasudeva
CHANDIGARH

Relentless rain continued to pound most parts of Delhi, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana and Chandigarh for the third consecutive day on Monday, putting life out of gear.

The rain across the northern parts of the country has led to landslips and flash floods in the region.

Seventeen people died in Himachal Pradesh in rain-related incidents in the past three days, while six deaths were reported in Haryana and two in Punjab.

Heavy damage

Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu said roads, transformers, electric sub-stations and water supply schemes suffered extensive damage in the State. "As per an initial estimate, the loss could be in the range of ₹3,000 crore-₹4,000 crore," he said.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi spoke to Mr. Sukhu over telephone and inquired about the extent of damage caused to life and property. Mr. Modi also called Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami to inquire about the situation in the State.

Spate on street: The scene at a residential area at Thunag in Mandi district of Himachal Pradesh following flash floods. PTI

Mr. Sukhu said efforts were under way to evacuate around 300 people, including tourists and residents, stranded in Lahaul-Spiti and Kullu districts by using helicopters once the weather permitted.

He said the 'Shrikhand Mahadev Yatra' had been halted for the rest of the season due to six deaths reported during the pilgrimage.

Rescue operations on

In Mandi district's Nagwain, six people who were stranded were safely evacuated on Sunday night, while 29 people trapped in Manali's potato ground were rescued around 8 a.m. The Mandi administration got 113 houses evacuated in the wake of a flood-like situation in the Beas. About 200 tourists are stranded near Chandertal Lake in Lahaul and Spiti district, and efforts are under way to rescue them. An operation has been launched to trace eight missing local people at Lohardi in the Baijnath area of Kangra district.

Heavy rain that triggered landslips has left hundreds stranded as several roads, including National Highways, have been damaged, adversely impacting vehicular movement in Himachal Pradesh.

The incessant rain has left Sutlej, Ravi and Beas rivers, flowing through Himachal Pradesh, Punjab and Haryana, in spate.

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DELHI ON THE SKIDS
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Bengal repolling peaceful, HC orders FIRs into deaths

Shiv Sahay Singh
KOLKATA

Repolling in 696 polling booths in the West Bengal panchayat elections was held peacefully on Monday even as the Calcutta High Court directed that First Information Reports (FIR) be registered in connection with the deaths reported following the violence on the day of polling.

The repolling was held across 18 districts without any major incidents of violence. While 175 booths went to repoll in Murshidabad district, 110 went to repoll in Malda. Personnel of the Central forces were deployed at every booth where the repolls were held.

The Calcutta High Court order came in response to a petition filed by State Congress president Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury.

"With regard to the people who have lost their lives, since it is alleged that it is on account of the violence, which occurred on July 8, 2023, necessarily in all cases, where people have lost their lives, FIRs have to be registered and post-mortem be performed," a Division Bench of Chief Justice T.S. Sivagnanam and Justice Hiranmay Bhattacharyya said. The Bench said the post-mortem be videographed and the injuries sustained by the victims be appropriately noted and placed before the court in a report.

The High Court also ordered the State government that the injured be provided the best treatment in government hospitals and if they require special care, necessary arrangements be made immediately.

Mr. Chowdhury has filed a petition seeking an investigation by a sitting judge of the High Court or by an independent agency into the violence during the panchayat polls.

Second chance: Voters stand in a queue to cast vote at a polling booth in Krishnamati Berhrampur on Monday. DEBASISH BHADURI

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NEARBY

Gruha Lakshmi set for launch on Aug. 16

BENGALURU
Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has said that the much-anticipated Gruha Lakshmi 'guarantee' will be launched on August 16.
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Drive to clear encroachments on footpaths

BENGALURU
In an effort to ensure pedestrian safety, the Bengaluru Traffic Police launched 'Reclaim Footpaths' — a special drive, in collaboration with the city's civic body — to clear footpaths of all encroachments on Monday.
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SC seeks data on action taken against lynchings

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Monday decided to take stock of what the Union and State governments have done so far to punish lynchings, mostly spurred by communal hate, since its July 2018 judgment condemned these "horrendous acts of mobocracy" as an anathema which requires a special law and punishment.

A Bench of Justices Sanjeev Khanna and Bela M. Trivedi directed the State governments to file year-wise data regarding the complaints filed, FIRs registered and challans submitted in courts concerning incidents of mob violence and lynchings.

The court said the Home Ministry could meet with the department heads concerned of States and provide the status on measures taken by them to comply with the directions of the court in its 2018 judgment in Tehseen Poonawala case. It had directed States to form Special Task Forces to collect intelligence on likely incidents of hate speeches, mob violence and lynchings.

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Foxconn pulls out of $19.5-billion chip joint venture with Vedanta

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Taiwan-based Hon Hai Technology Group, better known as Foxconn, on Monday pulled out of a $19.5-billion semiconductor joint venture with the Vedanta Group to "explore more diverse development opportunities".

Under the joint venture, the two firms were to invest in a semiconductor fabrication plant in Gujarat, which would make 28 nanometre semiconductors.

"In order to explore more diverse development opportunities, according to mutual agreement, Foxconn has determined it will not move forward on the joint venture with Vedanta," the company said in a statement.

Foxconn added that it was not breaking away from the Indian semiconductor space entirely, and that it still supported the Indian government's domestic chip-making efforts. The firm said it would "establish a diversity of local partnerships that meet the needs of stakeholders".

Over the past few days, uncertainty loomed over the joint venture, amid reports that the firms were not able to fulfil the government's push for more

The firms were set to jointly invest in a semiconductor plant in Gujarat. REUTERS

technology transfer and investment from European firm STMicroelectronics.

In a statement that did not refer to Foxconn, Vedanta said it would forge ahead with other partners. "We will continue to grow our Semiconductor team, and we have the license for production-grade technology for 40nm [chips] from a prominent Integrated Device Manufacturer (IDM)," the company said. "India remains pivotal in repositioning global semiconductor supply chains."

Electronics and Information Technology Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said on Twitter, "Both the companies Foxconn and Vedanta are committed to India's semiconductor mission and Make in India program."

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Tomato-laden truck hijacked at Chikkajala

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Close on the heels of ₹2.7 lakh worth tomatoes being stolen from a farmland in Belur taluk last Tuesday, a gang of three hijacked and fled with a truck laden with two tonnes of tomatoes under the garb of a road rage incident in Chikkajala on Saturday.

The prices of tomatoes have shot up to between ₹120 and ₹150 per kg in the country.

The victim, a farmer from Hiriyur, Chitradurga district, was transporting a load of tomatoes from his farm to the city on Saturday. While on the way, the accused followed the truck and intercepted it near RMC Yard, accusing the farmer of ramming the car into theirs and damaging it.

When the farmer tried to reason with them, the trio assaulted him before taking control of the truck and drove towards Chikkajala, demanding money for repair. However, when they realised the farmer did not have money, they pushed him out of the vehicle and sped away with the truck loaded with 250 crates of tomatoes totalling two tonnes and worth about ₹2.4 lakh, sources said.

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A BG-BGE

Andreeva takes the tennis world by storm

It is still early days for the Russian — the youngest player ever to reach the last 16 of a WTA 1000 event — who is already up to 64th in the live rankings; however, with the age eligibility rule in place, it will be a gradual process for her to move to higher level tournaments

Nihit Sachdeva

At the age of 16, Mirra Andreeva has her goals set. She wants to play until she wins at least 25 Majors.

Russia's Andreeva is the latest teenage star in women's tennis. She is the youngest player to reach the fourth round at Wimbledon since Coco Gauff, then 15, made the round of 16 at SW19 four years ago. Like the American, Andreeva too began her campaign from the qualifying round. But this is not where Andreeva's story began.

Andreeva, who was born in the Russian town of Krasnoyarsk but stays in France's Cannes, made her Tour-level debut at the WTA 250 event in Monastir, Tunisia, last year as a wildcard. She lost 3-6, 7-6(4), 3-6 to compatriot Anastasia Potapova in the opening round.

In 2023, she reached the final of the junior Australian Open, going down to another compatriot Alina Korneeva 7-6(2), 4-6, 5-7 in a three hour and 18 minute long duel. The loss left Andreeva in tears. Korneeva said, "I want to congratulate Mirra for this amazing week, amazing battle... it's not our last battle, we will have a lot of good matches."

While both Andreeva and Korneeva played senior events on the ITF circuit post Australia, the former had another shot at Tour-level tennis when she received a wildcard for the Madrid Masters. This is where she showed her true potential.

Andreeva knocked out 2021 US Open finalist Leylah Fernandez in straight sets in the opening round. Beatriz Haddad Maia and Magda Linette, two players who are Grand Slam semifinalists, went down to her too.

"I'm not really surprised with my level, because I know the way I can play on the court. But, of course, I didn't expect to be here and go this far," said the Russian after beating Linette on her 16th birthday.

Reigning Australian Open champion Aryna Sabalenka finally stopped the junior Australian Open finalist's dream run in the fourth round but, by then, the statement had been made – Andreeva had beaten three Top-40 players in a week and become the youngest player ever to reach the last 16 of a WTA 1000 event.

Therefore, it wasn't really a surprise when Andreeva entered the senior French Open at Roland-Garros this year and cruised through the qualifying rounds. Fellow-teen Gauff, the 2022 runner-up, ended the Russian's stay at the clay Major in the third round but not before dropping the first set, courtesy Andreeva's explosive power from the baseline.

"Mirra, she's super young and has a big future for her. I remember when I was here as a 15-year-old... she has a lot to look forward to," said the American after the victory. However, Andreeva's performance at Wimbledon has surprised many, and for the right reasons. The Russian has never played on grass. According to the tournament website, in her first practice session at Roehampton, Andreeva fell thrice as she tried to understand the bounce and the movement. Yet, she dropped only seven games in her first two matches in the qualifying round before beating Tamara Korpatsch 7-5, 5-7, 6-2 to make it to the main draw for the second Major in a row.

Since then, she has beaten World No. 65 Xiyu Wang, 2021 French Open champion Krejcikova (the 10th-seeded Czech retired while trailing 4-6, 0-3) and Potapova, her first opponent on the Tour. She was up by a set and a break against Madison Keys before the 25th-seeded American, who reached the 2017 US Open final, came back to win 3-6, 7-6(4), 6-2. Victory over Keys would have made her the youngest quarterfinalist at the grass Major since Anna Kournikova in 1997 but the pressure eventually got to her as she broke down in tears towards the end of the match and also received a point-penalty for racquet abuse.

Andreeva's on-court adventures have been closely followed and will be available in the second instalment of *Break Point*, the Netflix series on the life of professional tennis players. "They (Netflix crew) are following me. They're actually somewhere here, I guess. I don't know. They just follow me. They're super nice people. So far I haven't noticed anything bad in them. They're super nice," said the Russian at the press conference after the match against Krejcikova.

Off the court, Andreeva is just like any teenager. She hates chemistry, sometimes skips her homework for her online courses and loves to watch TV series whenever possible.

> After this tournament, I will take some days off to relax. I don't want to play tennis for a few days, for sure. I will be back on clay and Lausanne WTA 250. Then I think I'll play in the US Open

'Murray is amazing'

In her interviews, the Russian has, on multiple occasions, talked about her admiration for three-time Major winner and former World No. 1 Andy Murray. In an interview with *Tennis Channel* during the Madrid Masters, she said, "When you're here and have lunch with all these stars, you see Andy Murray... you see his face and he's so beautiful in life. He is so amazing."

Murray, who is known for his sense of humour, tweeted in response to that interview clip, saying, "Imagine how good she's going to be when she gets her eyes fixed."

Recently, at Wimbledon, Andreeva saw Murray but was too shy to talk to him. "When I see him, I try to leave the facility super quick just to not to talk to him because I'm super shy," quipped the Russian.

Age eligibility rule

In the present-day scenario, it is not that common to have teenage sensations on the WTA Tour and that is why, whenever someone's name does come up, the spotlight is immediately on her. A case in point – Emma Raducanu at the 2021 US Open. Players like Jennifer Capriati, Monica Seles, Martina Hingis, Steffi Graf, Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario, Gabriela Sabatini and many others dominated the tennis world in their teens in the 1980s and '90s. Graf played her first Grand Slam main draw match at the French Open when she was just 13.

However, going full tilt so early in their careers also led to burn-outs, most of them could not play singles beyond the age of 30 and retired.

In 1994, the WTA introduced the age eligibility rule (AER) according to which players aged 14 to 17 cannot play the entire schedule, which adults can. A player aged 14 can play in a maximum of eight professional events. The number is 10 for age 15, 12 for age 16 and 16 for age 17 with four additional tournaments allowed based on merit.

It is still early days for Andreeva but the Russian is already up to 64th in the live WTA Rankings. However, with the AER in place, it will be a gradual process for her to move to higher level tournaments.

THE GIST

- Andreeva became the second player under the age of 17 to concede three games or less in a win at French Open since 2000 when she beat Alison Riske-Amritraj 6-2, 6-1. Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova had conceded just two games to Maria Emilia Salerni in 2008
- Andreeva was the seventh player under the age of 17 to reach the third round in women's singles at Roland-Garros since 1993
- At 16 years 68 days, the Russian emerged the third-youngest qualifier to enter the round-of-32 in women's singles at Wimbledon in the Open era. Only Kim Clijsters (16y 27d, 1999) and Cori Gauff (15y 4m 1d, 2019) were younger

Just did what I thought was respectful, says Azarenka after being booed

Associated Press
LONDON

Victoria Azarenka said it "wasn't fair" that she was booed at Wimbledon after her loss to Ukrainian rival Elina Svitolina on Sunday

Azarenka, who's from Belarus, had just lost a third-set tiebreaker and – knowing that Svitolina does not shake hands with Russian and Belarusian players after matches in protest of Russia's invasion of Ukraine – walked directly to the umpire to shake hands.

The two-time Grand Slam champion also seemed to give a slight wave to Svitolina, who won 2-6, 6-4, 7-6(9). But as she gathered her equipment and began walking off No. 1 Court – where the crowd had been rooting for Svitolina – boos rained down.

"I can't control the crowd. I'm not sure that a lot of people were understanding what's happening," Azarenka said, suggesting the crowd had been drinking. "It wasn't fair. It is what it is. What can I do?"

It wasn't clear if fans thought Azarenka snubbed Svitolina, but the Belarusian shook her head as she walked off and banged her hands or fists together over her head.

At the French Open, it was the other way around for Ukrainian players. Marta Kostyuk was booed when she didn't shake hands at the net with Aryna Sabalenka of Belarus. Svitolina said she was also booed in Paris.

"For me personally, I think the tennis organisations, they have to come out with a statement that there will be no handshake between Russian, Belarusian, and Ukrainian players," Svitolina said. "I don't know if it's maybe not clear for people. Some people not really know what is happening. So I think this is the right way to do."

The 33-year-old Azarenka said she's always had a good relationship with Svitolina.

"But what can I say about the crowd? There is nothing to say," Azarenka said. "She doesn't want to shake hands with Russian, Belarusian people. I respected her decision. What should I have done? Stayed and waited? Like, I mean, there's no thing that I could do that would have been right, so I just did what I thought was respectful towards her decision."

THE SILVER BULLET'S GOLDEN JOURNEY

The 2024 Summer Paralympics is fast approaching and the race for a shot at ultimate glory has begun. The Para Athletics World Championships, which began on July 9, is the first event for direct qualification in track and field events. Switzerland's Marcel Hug, coming in hot in the T54 5000m heats here, will look to add to his gold (Tokyo 2020) and silver (Rio 2016) in the event. The 37-year-old, nicknamed The Silver Bullet, has had a glistening Paralympic career with six gold, four silver and two bronze medals. GETTY IMAGES

Traffic police launch drive to clear encroachment on footpaths

All 48 jurisdictional traffic police station officials have been directed to identify such spots and take action

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In an effort to ensure pedestrian safety, the Bengaluru Traffic Police launched 'Reclaim Footpaths' – a special drive, in collaboration with the city's civic body, to clear footpaths of all encroachments on Monday.

This will not only ensure a safe path for pedestrians but also prevent them from walking on the road endangering their lives, M. N. Anucheth, Joint Commissioner of Police (Traffic) said. However, the drive has drawn the ire of street vendor unions as many street vendors termed "unauthorised" were evicted from the city's streets on Monday during the drive.

Even though 35% to 40% of the deaths on the city's streets are pedestrians, BTP has been flooded with complaints during their monthly Janasamparka Sabhe's that footpaths are not accessible to pedestrians, especially senior citizens."While we clear footpaths of illegally parked vehicles, civic officials will clear unauthorised hawkers with no valid licences, who are encroaching pathways and posing a threat to pedestrians," a senior traffic police said.

The scene before the footpath clearance drive and (right) the picture after that in Bengaluru on Monday.

As part of the campaign, all 48 jurisdictional traffic police station officials have been directed to identify encroached footpaths and clear them, one each day, till all footpaths are cleared of encroachments.

During this process, the police have also been asked to conduct an audit on the requirement of footpaths and necessary repairs required, in coordination with the local civic officials, Mr. Anucheth said. Data shows that as many as 248 pedestrians were killed and over 800 of them were injured in accidents reported in the city in 2022. The absence of footpaths and zebra crossings also add to the woes of road users. The drive is aimed at minimising pedestrian fatalities.

Meanwhile, what has raised hackles is the eviction of street vendors. Hawkers and street vendors who are encroaching footpaths, do not have valid ID cards, have been warned to vacate, and repeat offenders will be booked, in coordination with the civic body. They have also been evicted from many places on Monday, a senior traffic police official said. Meanwhile, the BBMP also launched the drive in Yelahanka zone, clearing encroachments including evicting vendors from a stretch of the main road in Jakkur.

Vinay Sreenivasa, of Bruhat Bengaluru Beedi Badi Vyaparigala Okkuta, said the Street Vendors (Protection of Livelihood and Regulation of Street Vending) Act, 2014, did not allow for one-sided eviction and said they should ideally be issued notices before eviction "The last survey of street vendors was done in 2017 and issued ID cards to only 25,000 vendors while there were around 1.5 lakh in the city. Street vending has increased post the pandemic, and no new survey has been conducted.

The traffic police, if they have any complaints against hawking, need to attend Town Vending Committee meetings in their zones and flag them there, which they do not do, but evict them unilaterally," he said.

Police rehabilitate beggars

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Yeshwantpur Traffic police took up a unique initiative as part of the Reclaim Footpath drive, to rehabilitate destitutes and beggars on the footpaths near Yeswantpur Railway Station on Monday.

Two deaths

The idea was also to save them from being killed in accidents due to jay-walking, after two such cases where these destitutes living on pavements were killed in accidents were reported in the area recently.

Raghvendra B.R., Traffic Police Inspector, Yeshwantpur, said that these destitutes were counselled, given food and sent to Beggars Rehabilitation Centre Centre so that they were treated well and did not fall prey to accidents.

KIA: On-time departure percentage witnesses an improvement

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Kempegowda International Airport's (KIA) on-time departures percentage between January, and June this year ranged from 74.3 to 85.3.

As per the monthly on-time performance (OTP) flight statistics of global data provider Official Airline Guide (OAG), in January KIA airport's on-time departure percentage was 74.3, with an on-time rank of 439, and the cancellation percentage was 1.1. The number of flights handled was 10,361.

The subsequent months saw an improvement in the on-time departure percentage as in February it was 81.7 followed by 84.80, 84.5, and 84.3 during the months of February, March, and April.

During June the on-time departure percentage was 85.3 with an on-time rank of 94 and the cancellation percentage was 0.7. The number of flights handled was 9,279.

Other airports

Two other airports in the State, Mangaluru International Airport and Hubballi Airport, also feature in the list. During the first six months of 2023, the Mangaluru International Airport's on-time departures percentage was between 78.8 and 90.1.

In January, KIA's cancellation percentage was 1.1. FILE PHOTO

In January the Mangaluru airport's on-time departures percentage was 78.8 with a cancellation percentage of 0.5 . In the next couple of months, the airport's on-time departure percentages were 85, and 90.1 respectively with a cancellation percentage of 0.3, and 0.5. During April and June, the airport's cancellation percentage was 0.

The Hubballi Airport's on-time departures percentage was between 81% and 90.4 with the cancellation percentage ranging from 0 to 6.2.

According to OAG, airport on-time performance is based on the actual departure gate times within 15 minutes of schedule. Cancellations are included and taken as not on-time. Arriving 15 minutes or after scheduled arrival is taken as not on-time.

Inclusion in the ranking is based on OAG access to flight status data for at least 80% of all scheduled flights operated by an airline or airport, said OAG.

From Page One

Tomato-laden truck hijacked in Chikkajala

Based on a complaint by the farmer, the Chikkajala police have taken up a case of assault and robbery and efforts are on to track down the accused.

Road rage

The police said, "It looks like an incident of road rage, and as the farmer did not have money, they seem to have fled with the truck laden with tomatoes." The police said they were analysing CCTV footage from various sources and had some leads on the accused and were in the process of nabbing them.

INBRIEF

BMS College organises inter-collegiate festival

A three-day inter-collegiate festival titled Samskruthi 2023 was organised by BMS College of Commerce and Management and BMS Evening College of Arts and Commerce, from July 7.

As many as 30 management and cultural events were held, in which over 2,000 students participated, said Cultural Head of the institution Dr. Preethi. The festival was inaugurated by actress Vidya Balan. It concluded with a music concert by Usha Uthap and team.

The programme was presided over by Dr. B.S. Ragini Narayan Donor Trustee BMS Educational Trust, Aviram Sharma, Chairman of BMS College of Commerce and Management and other BMS Trust officials, including Prof. Pankaj Choudhary, Principal, BMS College of Commerce and Management.

Former chairman of ISRO Kasturirangan hospitalised

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

K. Kasturirangan, former ISRO chairman, was admitted to Narayana Health City in Bengaluru on Monday for treatment of an acute illness.

Narayana Institute of Cardiac Sciences, which issued a media bulletin on Dr. Kasturirangan on Monday night said, "Preliminary investigations are ongoing and he is being closely monitored and treated by a multidisciplinary team of doctors."

Dr. Kasturirangan had suffered a heart attack in Sri Lanka and was airlifted to Bengaluru for treatment.

NLSIU Infosys Digital Library Fellowships for law students

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In association with Infosys Foundation, the National Law School of India University (NLSIU) is offering a one-year digital library fellowship to law students between August 15, 2023, to August 15, 2024. The 'NLSIU Infosys Digital Library Fellowships' will be awarded to at least 100 students currently studying law in India, of which, at least 10 would be reserved for disabled law students.

The Infosys Digital Library Scholarship project at the university aims at democratizing access to library resources through modes of digital inclusion, a statement from NLSIU said. It added that Sri Narayan Rao Melgiri Memorial National Law Library at NLSIU had been redeveloped in 2022-23 to provide a library that is among the best academic libraries in India.

Students who will receive the fellowship will have access to multiple e-resources including 20 e-databases for legal and social sciences material, hosting journal and periodical articles, and e-books, just like NLSIU students. They will also have access to the library on campus.

Interested students can apply for the fellowship before August 6. The University stated that the students would be eligible for applying only if they are enrolled in a full-time law programme in a recognised Indian university/ law faculty. It also said that applicants with disabilities must submit a certificate of disability issued under The Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016. The applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis, NLSIU said.

Two arrested

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The North-east division police on Monday unearthed an inter-State drug racket and arrested two persons n the city.

Based on a tip-off, a team of police from Kothanur station caught the woman, 30, a Tanzanian national, and recovered MDMA pills and marijuana worth ₹3.4 lakh from her.

Meanwhile, the Sampigehalli police arrested a Nigerian national and recovered 1.4 k.g. of marijuana and from him. The accused, identified as Prince, did not have any valid documents and was overstaying illegally.

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
Expression of Interest Notice No. B/C.14/PA/EMR/TK/2023 Dated : 04-07-2023
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites sealed expression of interest for EMR as per the following description.
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PUB/228/AAS/PRB/SWR/2023-24
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SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
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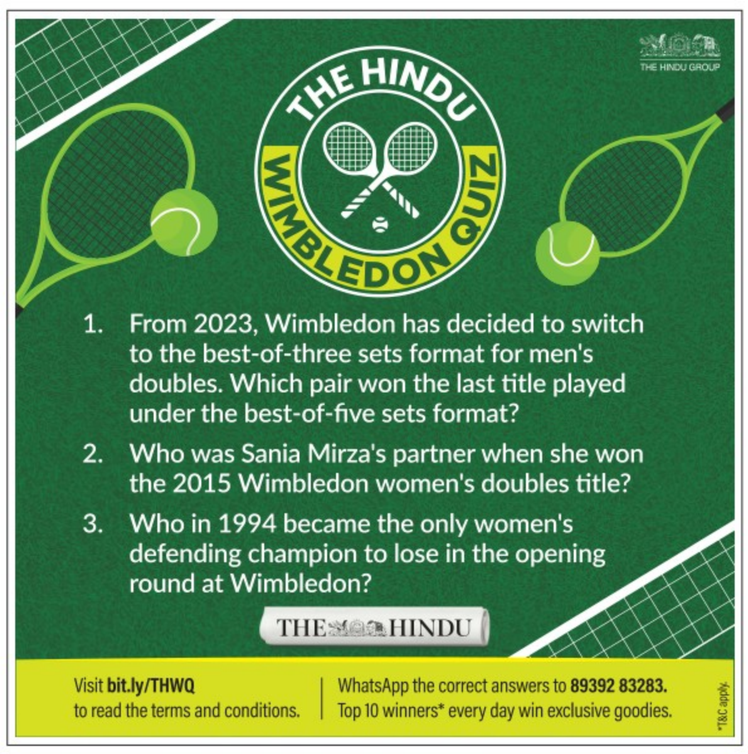

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PERSONAL
CHANGE OF NAME

I, NURAIN Khakiyani Residing at Flat No.103, Frazer Apartment, Veerabhadra Mudaliar Garden Road, Veeranna Garden, Frazer Town, Bangalore-560005 have changed my name to Nurain Farid Khakiyani Vide Affidavit Dated 10-07-2023 Sworn Before Notary A.R.Muneer Ahmed Bangalore.

I, PAVANA Kumara Manjappa, S/o Manjappa Parvathappa, R/o No.14, Sri Durga Nilaya, 19th Cross, Ittamadu, BSK 3rd Stage, Bengaluru-560085, have changed my name from Pavana Kumara Manjappa to Pavan Kumar Manjappa vide affidavit dated 08-07-2023 before Notary Uday Kumar.K, Bengaluru.

I Rajesh S/o Vaijinath, residing at 452, Thana Kushnoor, Bidar, Karnataka - 585436, have changed my name to Rajesh Wadeyar for all purposes in future

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF ADDL. SENIOR CIVIL JUDGE AND J.M.F.C. AT HUNSUR-MYSORE DISTRICT
ORIGINAL SUIT No. 185/2022
BETWEEN :
Plaintiff : C.S. Sathyanarayana S/o Late. C.V. Subbrayappa, Paternal Grand son of Late. Venkatagiriyappa, Aged about 65 years, R/at: Chilkunda Village, Hanagodu Hobli, Hunsur Taluk, Mysore District. - 571105.
AND -Vs-
Defendants : C.S. Venkataramu and others
Defendant No. 6: Smt. Swarana Rao, W/o Late Subba Rao, Age major, R/at: Chilkunda Village, Hanagodu Hobli, Hunsur Taluk, Mysore District - 571105.
NOTICE TO DEFENDANT No. 6 UNDER ORDER V RULE 20 (1-A) OF CODE OF CIVIL PROCEDURE 1908
Whereas, the Plaintiff above named has instituted the above suit for partition and separate possession, declaration, permanent injunction and for other consequential reliefs.
SCHEDULE AND BOUNDARY IN RESPECT OF AN EXTENT OF 0-31 OF LAND FALSELY ASSERTED BY DEFENDANT No. 6
The Defendant No.6 who is falsely asserted that she is the owner in respect of an extent of 0-31 (thirty-one) Guntas of Land as hereunder.
All part and parcel of agricultural land bearing Survey Number 1/3A measuring 0-31 (thirty-one) Guntas situated at Chilkunda Village, Hanagodu Hobli, Hunsur Taluk, Mysore District and bounded :
East by : Land of C.S. Venkataramu, West by : Government Road, North by: Land of C.S. Venkataramu, South by : Land of C.V. Narasimhamurthy and sons.
SUIT SCHEDULE PROPERTY
DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY FALLEN TO THE SHARE OF CV SUBBARAYAPPA, THE SECOND SON OF COMMON PROPOSITOR, VENKATAGIRIYAPPA
All the part and parcel of agricultural land bearing Survey Number 1/1 measuring 6 (Six) Acres 0-37 (thirty-Seven) Guntas situated at Chilkunda Village, Hanagodu Hobli, Hunsur Taluk, Mysore District and bounded : East by: Land of Lalithamma W/o V. Krishnappa, West by : Government Road, North by: Land of C.K. Gurumurthy and Puttaswamygowda, South by : Bengaluru and Mangaluru Highway.
Take notice that the above named Defendant No.6 in the above suit, is hereby summoned to appear before this Hon'ble court on 2/08/2023 at 11 AM either in person or through an advocate filing which the above suit will be decided ex parte against them.
Given under my hand and seal of this Hon'ble court this the 4th day of July 2023.
By order of the Court, Sheristedar, Civil Judge (Sr.Dn.) & JMFC Court, Hunsur.
ADVOCATE FOR PLAINTIFF :
M.G. GHORPADE SHEREGAR, B.A, LLB
High Court Advocate
M/s Yajaman Sheregar Associates
Law Office, 'Yajaman Sheregar Chambers' No. 113/F, 1-B, 1st Floor, Central Chambers Building, Opp. Kanthi Comforts, 2nd Main Road, Near Kanishka Hotel, Gandhinagar, Bengaluru-560009. Karnataka - India.
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ICICI BANK LIMITED
Having its branch Office at The Senate IBC, Ulsoor Road Yellappa Garden, Yellappa chetty Layout, Sivachetti Garden, BENGALURO- 560 008,
...Applicant
AND
1. Mr. D.N. Vijaya Krishna, Aged about 41 years, S/o Mr. Adhi Sesha Dasari, F.No. 203, 2nd Floor, Front Portion, NGEF Layout, Sanjay Nagar, Near Food World, Bangalore-560094.
Also at
Mr. D.N. Vijaya Krishna, C/o Dasari Adhi Seshu, MIG 8, Housing Board Colony, Lakshmi talkies Center, Machilipatnam, Near Rama Temple, Krishna District, Andhra Pradesh- 521001.
...Defendants
NOTICE ISSUED UNDER RULE 23 (VIII) OF THE DEBTS RECOVERYTRIBUNAL (PROCEDURE) RULES, 1993
WHEREAS, the Applicant has instituted an application Under Section 19 of the Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 against you for Recovery of a sum of Rs. 31,05,593.29/- (Rupees Thirty One Lakhs Five Thousand Five Hundred Ninety Three Paisa Twenty Nine Only) together with current and future interest and other relief's. The above Defendant is therefore, hereby directed to before the Tribunal in person or through an advocate or through authorized agents in support of their defence to show cause within 30 days from the date of publication or on 13/9/2023 at 10.30 A.M., as to why relief's prayed for should not be granted.
Take notice that in case of default the application will be heard and determined in your absence.
Given under my hand and seal of this tribunal on this the 28th day of June2023
Asst Debts Recovery, Tribunal Debts Bangalore

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The strange particle that holds the key to 'quantum supercomputers'

Majorana zero modes can be used to realise a powerful form of computing called topological quantum-computing. They can work as qubits and won't easily lose the information vested with them. Such a computer could also take advantage of peculiar mathematical rules called non-Abelian statistics

A semiconductor wafer In a manufacturing facility. Right: A 3D rendering of a quantum computer. Microsoft recently announced that they had figured out a way to create a strange kind of particle that could potentially revolutionise quantum computing. GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

Vasudevan Mukunth

In a paper published on June 21, researchers at Microsoft announced that they had figured out a way to create a strange kind of particle that could potentially revolutionise quantum computing.

These particles are called Majorana zero modes, whose unique properties could help build quantum computers that are less fragile, and more computationally robust, than they are today.

What does 'Majorana' mean?

All subatomic particles that make up matter are called fermions.

In 1928, the British physicist Paul Dirac wanted to understand how quantum mechanics would change if it accommodated the special theory of relativity as well. The result was the Dirac equation, which described the behaviour of subatomic particles that moved at near the speed of light.

Dirac noticed that the equation predicted the existence of an antiparticle for each particle, such that if the two meet, they annihilate each other. Based on his prediction, scientists found the first antiparticle, the positron (the anti-electron), in 1932.In 1937, the Italian physicist Ettore Majorana found that the Dirac equation also allowed particles that satisfied certain conditions to be their own antiparticles. In his honour, fermions that are their own antiparticles are called Majorana fermions.

What is a Majorana zero mode?

All particles have four quantum numbers associated with them. No two particles in the same system can have the same four quantum numbers. The numbers are together like each particle's ID.

The characteristic feature of fermions is that one of these numbers, called the quantum spin, has only half-integer values, like 1/2, 3/2, 5/2, etc. This is why any particle, even two particles bound to each other in some way, can be a fermion: the total quantum spin needs to have a half-integer value.

Most of the rules that apply to single fermions also apply to these pairs, or bound states. When these bound states are their own antiparticles - i.e. if they meet, they annihilate each other - they are Majorana fermions. Physicists call such bound states *Majorana zero modes*, and have been looking for them for at least two decades.

Benefit to quantum-computing

Majorana zero modes can be used to realise a powerful form of computing called topological quantum-computing.

A quantum computer today can use individual electrons as qubits - its fundamental units of information. Information can be encoded in some property of each electron, like its spin. Then, the computer manipulates that information by having the electrons interact with each other according to the quirky rules of quantum mechanics.

These quirks are what make quantum computers better than classical computers: they allow the computers to access computational techniques and pathways not available to systems that are limited to the possibilities of classical physics. For example, a qubit can have the values 0 and 1 at the same time thanks to a property called quantum superposition. But a semiconductor in a classical computer can have only one value at a time, 0 or 1.

On the flip side, quantum computers are very fragile. Tap your fingers on a table on which there's a computer and it could lose its quantummy abilities. That is, it could *decohere*.

Now, say we have a Majorana zero mode that's an electron and a hole. A hole is a point where there could be an electron but isn't. It effectively has a positive charge. We can build a quantum computer whose qubit is such a Majorana zero mode. That is, we encode information onto some property of the mode.

The zero mode is composed of two entities (electron and hole), so say we pull the entities apart and keep them at a distance from each other. In this configuration, physicists have found that even if one of the entities is disturbed, the overall qubit doesn't decohere, and continues to protect the encoded information. In principle, if there is no overlap between the two 'half-particles', such a qubit can exist forever, Indian Institute of Science associate professor Anindya Das told this writer.

What does 'topological' mean?

The information is protected thanks to *topological degeneracy*.

Degeneracy in quantum mechanics means that the system has multiple states at the same energy. In topological systems, the system has multiple states at the lowest or ground state energy.

That is, the quantum system can exist in two (or more) possible states at its lowest energy. This is usually not possible: in its ground state - i.e. when a system has the least amount of energy - it will have a particular configuration and will exist in a particular state.

If a system can exist in two possible states, or configurations, at its ground state, then the information encoded in that energy level can be recovered from one state or the other. 'Topological degeneracy' refers to a special case. Topology is the study of those properties of matter that don't change when it undergoes *continuous deformation* - i.e. when it's stretched, folded, twisted, etc., but not ruptured or glued to itself.

> The first big challenge today is to create Majorana zero modes in a system. A popular example of a system that could give rise to them is a structure called a topological superconductor

For example, a rubber band that's continuously deformed will continue to have one hole. A pair of shorts that's continuously deformed will always have three holes. This is why a rubber band (no matter how big) can't seamlessly transform into a pair of shorts. It will need to undergo a discontinuous deformation. That is, the rubber band and the shorts are in topologically different states.

If they are also topologically degenerate, the rubber band and the shorts would be two possible states of the same system in its ground state. So the information can be stored between different topological properties, such as in the number of holes each state contains.

In effect, Majorana zero modes can work as qubits and they won't easily lose the information vested with them. This is why people building quantum computers are interested in finding them.

What are the advantages?

A quantum computer based on Majorana zero modes could be interesting in other ways, too. For example, it can take advantage of the peculiar mathematical rules that describe the behaviour of Majorana zero modes, called *non-Abelian statistics*. In these rules, changing the order of steps in which you perform a task changes the task's outcomes.For example, say you have an algorithm that performs a series of steps in the order A-B-C-D. If the algorithm played by the rules of non-Abelian statistics, A-C-B-D would give a different result from A-D-B-C. So algorithms running on a quantum computer using non-Abelian statistics will have one more degree of freedom than those running on a computer that doesn't.

Majorana zero modes

The first big challenge today is to create Majorana zero modes in a system. A popular example of a system that could give rise to them is a structure called a topological superconductor.To be a Majorana zero mode, any bound state should obey the Dirac equation and should be its own antiparticle. A topological superconductor is built to allow particles to meet these conditions.

It consists of a semiconductor in the form of a nanowire, with a superconducting sheath wrapped around it. The sheath covers a part of the nanowire. At one end, the nanowire is connected to a small junction through which electrons are fed into it. A magnetic field is applied over the materials to complete the setup. Here, Majorana zero modes are expected to exist at the ends of the nanowire, due to the interactions between the materials' electronic structures.

In a 2021 study, researchers created this setup but couldn't find Majorana zero modes. They found that the junction where the electrons entered the nanowire was the problem. Another paper, also published in 2021, claimed to have found Majorana zero modes, only to be retracted after mistakes were found in its data.These are just two examples from a panoply of studies. Scientists have also come up with other ways to realise Majorana zero modes. But they are yet to be observed.

Apart from creating these 'particles', confirming that they are there is also tricky: they need to be inferred indirectly, from their effects on the surrounding material. One way was thought to be the presence of a zero-bias conductance peak - the ability of an electric current to flow very easily in the absence of a voltage, while controlling for some parameters. But studies later found that such a peak wouldn't be caused by Majorana zero modes alone, that they could be caused by other phenomena as well.

This left the field in a mess, Dr. Das said.

What has Microsoft found?

In the new study, published on June 21, researchers from Microsoft reported engineering a topological superconductor made of an aluminium superconductor and an indium arsenide semiconductor.

They have said that this device was able to pass a "stringent protocol", based on measurements and simulations, that indicated with a "high probability" that it hosted Majorana zero modes. The protocol is called the topological gap protocol. According to the researchers, passing this protocol as well as observing the conductance peak is a smoking gun for Majorana zero modes.

According to Dr. Das, while topological quantum computing remains the ultimate goal, the existence of Majorana fermions hasn't been settled yet. The result will need to be independently confirmed. Nonetheless, several news outlets reported that Microsoft had taken an important step towards a "quantum supercomputer".

For example, *TechCrunch* quoted Microsoft's VP of advanced quantum development saying "the company believes that it will take fewer than 10 years to build a quantum supercomputer using these qubits that will be able to perform a reliable one million quantum operations per second." Dr. Das's estimate of the timeline for such a device was at least a century.

The paper itself concluded thus: "Continued improvement in simulation, growth, fabrication, and measurement capabilities will be required to achieve the topological gap required for ... coherent operations."

Quiz buffs, we're sorry for skipping the quiz today. Instead, check out the one for 'World Population Day' on Text & Context.

Consuming legumes, nuts, fish, whole-fat dairy products key to lowering risk of CVD, finds study

Researchers analysed dietary data from 2,45,000 people in 80 countries across the world from multiple studies; St. John's Research Institute was one of the five study sites in India

Afshan Yasmeen
BENGALURU

Consuming fruits, vegetables, legumes, nuts, fish and whole-fat dairy products is key to lowering the risk of Cardiovascular Disease (CVD), including heart attacks and strokes, according to a recent study. The study led by researchers from McMaster University and Hamilton Health Sciences researchers at the Population Research Health Institute (PHRI) was published in the European Heart Journal on July 6.

The World Health Organization estimates nearly 18 million people died from CVD in 2019, representing 32% of all global deaths. Of these deaths, 85% were due to heart attacks and strokes. PHRI researchers and their global collaborators analysed dietary data from 2,45,000 people in 80 countries across the world from multiple studies. The researchers found that a healthy diet can be achieved in various ways, such as including moderate amounts of whole grains or unprocessed meats.

Diet scores

"Previous diet scores – including the EAT-Lancet Planetary Diet and the Mediterranean Diet – tested the relationship of diet to CVD and death mainly in Western countries. The Prospective Urban Rural Epidemiology (PURE) Healthy Diet Score included a good representation of high, middle, and low-income countries," said Salim Yusuf, senior author and principal investigator of PURE.

As well as being truly global, the PURE Healthy Diet Score focused on exclusively protective, or natural, foods. "We were unique in that focus. The other diet scores combined foods considered to be harmful - such as processed and ultra-processed foods - with foods and nutrients believed to be protective of one's health," said PHRI scientist Andrew Mente, who is the lead author of the paper. "There is a recent increased focus on higher consumption of protective foods for disease prevention. Outside of larger amounts of fruits, vegetables, nuts and legumes, the researchers found that moderation is key in the consumption of natural foods," he said.

Outside of larger amounts of fruits, vegetables, nuts and legumes, the researchers found that moderation is key in the consumption of natural foods. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

"Moderate amounts of fish and whole-fat dairy are associated with a lower risk of CVD and mortality. The same health outcomes can be achieved with moderate consumption of grains and meats - as long as they are unrefined whole grains and unprocessed meats," according to the study.

The PURE study

The PURE study was conducted in five sites in India – St John's Research Institute, Bengaluru, Madras Diabetes Research Foundation and Dr. Mohan's Diabetes Specialities Centre, Chennai, Health Action by People, Trivandrum, Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, School of Public Health, Chandigarh and Rajasthan University of Health Sciences, Jaipur.

A total of 26,082 subjects from these sites were used for this study.

Sumathi Swaminathan, Associate Professor at St. John's Research Institute, who is also one of the authors, said the PURE Healthy Diet Score recommends an average daily intake of fruits at two to three servings; vegetables at two to three servings; nuts at one serving; and dairy at two servings.

"The score also includes three to four weekly servings of legumes and two to three weekly servings of fish. Possible substitutes included whole grains at one serving daily, and unprocessed red meat or poultry at one serving daily," she said.

The servings are as per the United States Department of Agriculture's dietary guidelines, Ms. Swaminathan added.

Mapping flood-prone areas in Bengaluru: NGO takes up crowdsourced initiative

Shilpa Elizabeth
BENGALURU

The tragic death of 23-year-old Bhanu Rekha after being stuck in a flooded underpass near K.R. Circle rocked the city in May.

With the monsoon setting in and rains starting to lash the city once again, Bengaluru-based NGO Reap Benefits has started an initiative to map flood-prone areas across the city to nudge the officials into action and prevent unfortunate incidents.

The initiative is crowdsourced and citizens can send the details of flood-prone areas to the WhatsApp bot number 8095500118. Once the sender sends the keyword 'floodmap' to the number, the bot responds with a flow that asks for more details.

Started about a week back, the initiative has so far seen about a hundred data points coming in from people across the city. It aims to touch 1,000 by the end of July.

As per the street audit flood data of NGO Reap benefits, 139 areas and 4,905 households are hit by heavy flooding in Bengaluru. FILE PHOTO

Based on the collected data, the organisation plans to compile a report which would be submitted to the BBMP commissioner.

Revenue Minister Krishna Byre Gowda said 21 rain-related deaths were reported in the State due to recent rains. As per reports, last year between June and September, monsoon fury cost 96 lives, crops in 5.8 lakh hectares of land, 1,471 bridges and 2,223 km of road in Karnataka. The total estimated loss was more than ₹7,600 crore.

Citizen power

Reap Benefit's platform uses open-source technology to collect and build data, and mobilise grassroots-level movements to address civic challenges.

The idea for 'flood mapping' was the result of a 'street audit' exercise conducted by Reap Benefits this year in June around World Environment Day. A total of 800 street audits were performed across 65 wards in South Bengaluru and near Vidhan Sabha.

Among several other issues like non-functional streetlights, footpath obstruction, improper waste disposal, exposed transformers, and open defecations, citizens also raised flooding-prone streets as a major concern.

As per the street audit flood data of Reap benefits, 139 areas and 4,905 households are being impacted by heavy flooding. Light flooding affects 83 areas and 2,567 households.

South Bengaluru

"In areas like Bapuji Nagar, there was major flooding last year. Many people who were earlier staying near the Vrishbhavathi river have now vacated their homes and left due to the floods. So many houses in the neighbourhood are now lying empty," said Shrikant Mehtre, senior mentor at Reap Benefits.

He noted that the majority of the data points on flooding-prone areas so far have been coming in from South Bengaluru including Mavalli, J.C. Road slum and Byrasandra among other areas. "A separate team of volunteers is working on the verification of these data points. They visit the site as and when we get an entry and cross-check it," Mr Mehtre explained.

"The initiative is pan-India and we are working on collecting data from across India, but majorly we have got data from Bengaluru. We are also getting data from Dakshina Kannada which is also facing heavy flooding," he added.

Manjunath laments shortage of funds for research in universities

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Renowned cardiologist C.N. Manjunath, Director, Sri Jayadeva Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences and Research, lamented on the shortage of funds for research activities in Indian universities.

"Research has taken a backseat because of paucity of funds in almost all universities. Allocation of funds for research activities in universities is the least in India compared to the rest of the world. It is imperative on the part of both State government and University Grants Commission (UGC) to allocate sufficient funds for research activities," he said in his convocation address of Bengaluru City University's second annual convocation, in the city on Monday. "Without research, there would be no progress, no innovation and no new thoughts, he said, adding that research was the lifeline of discoveries and innovations, without which the learning process would become stagnant.

Dr. C.N. Manjunath speaking at Bengaluru City University on Monday. SUDHAKARA JAIN

"Students should keep an open mind and try to look for opportunities in either the public or private sector," he said, advising them to prepare for civil services and not be deterred by failure. He also appealed to students to develop the mindset of an entrepreneur to create their own opportunities. "It is fine to be an employee for a few years in the beginning. But you must aim and dream to become an employer eventually," he said.

Dr. Manjunath advised students to manage stress. "One of the major problems in our society nowadays is increase in mental stress among young people," he said, adding that because of the modern lifestyle, younger people in the age group of 17 to 40 years were at a high risk of developing blood pressure, diabetes, heart disease, cancer, screen addiction etc.

Thaawar Chand Gehlot, Governor of Karnataka, awarded gold medals and degrees to toppers. He also conferred the honorary doctorate degree, 'Doctor of Letters (D.Lit)' to educationists Dr. Wooday P. Krishna and Nissar Ahmed and 'Doctor of Literature (D.Litt)' to writer Tarini Chidananda.

E-paper edition

The Hindu offers more coverage of Bengaluru in the e-paper edition. (epaper.thehindu.com)

In the issue dated July 11, we take a look at the evolving theatre scene in the city, and how finding affordable space for rehearsals has become difficult for many theatre troupes.

Timings
BENGALURU

TUESDAY, JUL. 11	
RISE 06:00	SET 18:50
RISE 00:39	SET 13:24
WEDNESDAY, JUL. 12	
RISE 06:00	SET 18:50
RISE 01:20	SET 14:17
THURSDAY, JUL. 13	
RISE 06:00	SET 18:50
RISE 02:04	SET 15:11

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	30	25
Mysuru	32	22
Bengaluru	29	21

Bengaluru Today
28°C The weather will be comfortable but humid. Night will be pleasant. Spell of moderate rain or thundershower will occur.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
29°C The weather will be slight warm and humid. Night will be pleasant. Chances of light rain and thundershower.

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Stray dogs survey in city from today

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The city civic body has launched a stray dog survey across the city, which will be conducted over the next 14 days. The last such survey was done in 2019, when it pegged the stray dog population in the city at 3.1 lakh.

"A resurvey is being taken up to assess the success of Animal Birth Control (ABC) programme and anti-rabies vaccine programme from 2019," Chief Civic Commissioner Tushar Giri Nath said.

The 840 sq.km area under Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) has been divided into 6,850 micro-zones of 0.5 sq.km area each, of which a random sampling of 20%, or 1,350 micro-zones, have been selected for the stray dog survey, the BBMP said. Care has been taken to ensure these micro-zones selected include all kinds of areas like residential, commercial and industrial ones, sources said.

The 840 sq.km area under BBMP has been divided into 6,850 micro-zones of 0.5 sq.km area each, of which a random sampling of 20%, or 1,350 micro-zones, have been selected for the survey. FILE PHOTO

The exercise will be led by K.P. Suresh, Chief Scientist (Biostatistics), Indian Council of Agricultural Research - National Institute of Veterinary Epidemiology and Disease Informatics (ICAR-NIVEDI), Bengaluru. He will lead a team of 100 personnel drawn from Animal Husbandry Department, Government of Karnataka, and Animal Husbandry Department, BBMP, who have been divided into 50 teams of 2 personnel each. The survey will be conducted from 6.00 a.m. to 8.30 a.m. everyday over the next two weeks. Each stray dog in the selected micro-zone will be photographed and their details entered in an in-house app.

Mr. Giri Nath said the survey will provide the civic body with not only the total number of stray dogs in the city, but also ward wise and zone wise numbers, male to female ratio and extent of implementation and success of ABC programme in the city.

About 2,871 acres of forest land encroached upon in Bengaluru Urban, says Minister

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Of nearly 17,000 acres of forest land in Bangalore Urban district, about 2,871 acres have been encroached upon due to various reasons, Forest, Ecology and Environment Minister Eshwar Khandre informed the Legislative Council on Monday.

"There are 16,988 acres of forest land in Bengaluru Urban division including Anekal. Of this, 2,284.22 acres of forest area have been encroached upon in 704 cases in the Bengaluru Urban division and 587.15 acres of forest area in 347 cases in the Bannerghatta National Park division," said the Minister in his written reply. Measures are being initiated at various levels to clear the encroached land, he said.

Responding to BJP member Muniraju Gowda, the Minister said that out of a total of 1,051 encroachment cases, eviction orders have been issued in 339 cases. About 403.20 acres of forest area in 63 cases has been cleared. "The rest are at different stages of clearance. Even after the eviction order was given, some people brought an injunction through the Court. The government is committed to clear all encroached land," he said.

"Out of 704 encroachment cases in all urban divisions, Bengaluru South has the highest number of 283 cases and 1,277.33 acres of forest land has been encroached. There are 250 cases in East Bengaluru and 570 acres have been encroached upon. Cases have been registered against the encroachers under the Karnataka Forest Act, 1963, and investigation is being conducted under Section 64 (A). Action is being taken to clear the encroachments," he said.

Visvesvaraya Technological University
(State University of Government of Karnataka Established as per the VTU Act, 1994)
Jnana Sangama', Belagavi - 590 018, Karnataka State

Phone:(0831) 2405468 Fax:(0831)5405467
Ref.No.VTU/PS/2023-24/1890 Date:10.07.2023

NOTIFICATION

Sub: Twenty-third Annual Convocation to award Under Graduate and Ph.D. Degrees of VTU – reg.

It is hereby informed that t**he Twenty-third Annual Convocation to award Under Graduate and Ph.D. Degrees of VTU, is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, 1st August 2023, at 11-30 a.m., in the Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam Auditorium, "Jnana Sangama" Campus of VTU, Belagavi**. The awardees of the above degree are hereby cordially invited to attend the Convocation.

In this Convocation Ceremony, the Degrees will be awarded only to the Gold Medalists and Rank Holders of 2022-2023 batch of Under Graduate Programmes and to the candidates eligible for the award of Ph.D. Degree.

All the candidates are required to note the following:

The candidates shall :

* Be present in the Auditorium with neat white dress as mentioned in the University Website
* Occupy the seats in the Auditorium at least half an hour earlier to the commencement of Convocation Ceremony* Not to attend the Convocation Ceremony if they have any symptoms of fever / cold / cough
* Standup when the Hon'ble Governor of Karnataka the Chancellor and other dignitaries enters the hall and remain so until they occupy the chairs
* Maintain silence and discipline throughout the Ceremony
* Switch off mobile phone in the premises
* Not to leave their position till the dignitaries leaves the hall after the Ceremony is over
* Follow the instructions issued by the Registrar(Evaluation) regarding Registration and other protocols of Convocation

Other candidates, who wish to collect the Degree Certificates personally, can collect the same from the Office of the Registrar (Evaluation) the next working day, on **2nd August 2023**, during the office hours on producing valid identity card issued by the college. The certificates of the rest of the candidates will be sent to the concerned colleges after the Convocation

By order
(**Dr. B. E. Rangaswamy**)
Registrar

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All the world is a stage, but there are too few places for rehearsals in city

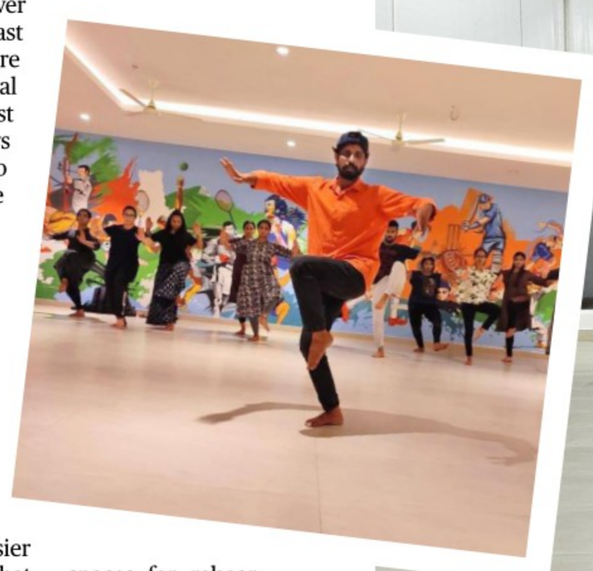
Theatre spaces in the city during the 70s and 80s were affordable only through a letter seeking permission or at a very nominal fee; in the late 2000s, the spaces started getting expensive

Yemen S.
BENGALURU

Producing some of India's finest directors, writers, actors, musicians, producers and performance spaces, Bengaluru has had a strong and rich theatre culture over many decades. In the last two decades the theatre scene, both professional and amateur, has not just evolved with great plays being produced but also the kind of audience who enjoys theatre.

Just as theatre has been evolving over the years, the rehearsal process has also been evolving simultaneously. While the very process of rehearsal and what it costs has changed much, many theatre persons bemoan that finding rehearsal spaces was easier earlier compared to what access to spaces is like today.

There were days when theatre troupes would easily have their drama rehearsals at a director's home, huge sheds or backyards, grounds, open air theatre spaces, auditoriums and many such spaces. However, with the drastic growth of Bengaluru over the last two decades, and the number of theatre troupes increasing, and with the costs also sky-rocketing, finding affordable spaces for rehearsals has gotten harder.



Rehearsals spaces that cost ₹50 per day are now charging a minimum of ₹500.

More groups

Many Kannada, Hindi, and English amateur troupes perform anywhere between 20-100 shows in a year. Most teams make it a habit to rehearse for a couple of days before each show, and reserving a theatre space even for a short time is among the most tedious and expensive parts of showcasing a production for a troupe.

According to the database provided by the Nataka Academy, Bengaluru has more than 350 registered and un-registered amateur and professional theatre troupes. With 350-plus troupes performing regularly, there are very few identified spaces for rehearsals like H N Kalakshetra, National College Basavanagudi, Suchitra Film Society and Trust, Kappanna Angala, The Untitled Space, Vyoma Art Space and Studio, Lahe Lahe, Alliance Francaise, Yuvaka Sangha, Our Theatre Studio and We-Move Theatre.

Senior theatre practitioners say that even the very few theatre spaces in Bengaluru in the 70s and 80s were affordable only through a letter seeking permission or at a very nominal fee. In the late 2000s the spaces started getting a little expensive and charged anywhere between ₹200-300 for a whole day or for 3-4 hours. However, even these popular spaces have become difficult to afford or have a long waiting list, say senior practitioners.

Sreenivas G. Kappanna, one of Bengaluru's senior most theatre artistes who is known for his stage design, lighting, and production work, says the whole process of rehearsal was different back in the 70s and 80s. "Forty years ago, Kannada theatre did plays by well-known writers like Adya Rangacharya (Sriranga) and T.P. Kailasam. Back in those days rehearsals were not very intense. Later, when directors started coming from the National School of Drama (NSD), Delhi, the process got more intense, each movement of an artiste was very important. By then plays by the likes of Girish Karnad and P. Lankesh, were being produced."

Mr. Kappanna added that director B. Chandrashekar brought in a new dimension to rehearsals "One director who brought a new dimension to rehearsals in Kannada theatre was B. Chandrashekar. He was a very disciplined director and expected everyone in the production to be punctual. The actors were not given special treatment. Every artist would have to take care of his/her props and take ownership of them." Meanwhile, popular director, music composer, writer and actor B.V. Karanth's rehearsals were fun, says Mr. Kappanna.

Says Shashidar Bharighat, a prominent theatre director and senior member of Samudaya, one of Kannada theatre's well-known troupes that gained prominence in the 70s, "I came to Bengaluru in the 80s, when most of our rehearsals would happen at the quadrangle of National College, Basavanagudi or H.N Kalakshetra in National College Jayanagar or at Ravindra Kalakshetra. However, as the managements of the college kept changing, their policies too changed. Everything has become commercial. "

"Rehearsals spaces that cost ₹50 per day are now charging a minimum of ₹500. The shed at Ravindra Kalakshetra did not have a waiting list like how it has now, there were fewer teams, and the space was easily available. With Bengaluru growing, the number of theatre troupes has also become more over the years, making it very difficult to find a rehearsal space."

Speaking to *The Hindu*, Vinay Shastry, a young director and founder of VASP Theatre, says a sense of inhibition has arisen for many institutions like government offices, schools and colleges to let out their space for theatre rehearsals.

"Earlier schools and colleges were very supportive in terms of renting out their spaces for rehearsals. We are not sure what the exact reason is, but lately they have become less supportive, and there is a sense of inhibition in renting out their space to theatre troupes. Our opportunities have dipped, and we are looking out for other avenues," he says.

Changing technology

Mr. Vinay says that the lack of rehearsal spaces and the rent charged by rehearsal spaces has also affected the way plays are being produced. "We used to produce enormous productions that had a minimum of 25-30 artists in it, but now, due to the lack of rehearsal spaces, we are cutting down the production strength to not more than 5-8 artists, including actors, technicians and production managers, in order to do rehearsals in smaller places like our very own homes or office spaces. The rent charged by the rehearsal spaces are also too high, spaces charge anywhere between ₹500-1000 for an hour or two, affording these spaces is not easy for many theatre troupes in Bengaluru."

Theatre and television actor Keethi Bhanu talks about how the approach to theatre among the young too has changed and technology has become both a boon and a bane for theatre over the years.

"About a 20 years ago, not all of us had phones, internet connection, social media, and other platforms to communicate with troupe members on the shows planned and the rehearsal dates. Whenever we met, we decided and fixed the dates for the next show and rehearsal. If there was an unplanned show, we would write letters and postcards to the troupe members well in advance asking them to keep themselves available for the shows and rehearsals, and everyone made sure that they would write back to us," says Mr. Bhanu.

Over time, landlines became easily accessible and that became a mode of communication, "A few years later, in the late 90s and early 2000s landlines were more accessible, some artists had landlines at their homes, and some had access to landlines at their workspaces."

But he argues that while communication has gotten easier with smart phones, artists lack commitment and do not prioritise discipline. Mr. Bhanu feels that young artistes also lack time management and are not punctual, "In the past Bengaluru was just as busy as it is now, though traffic has gotten worse. There were working women who had children too in our troupes back then, but if a director said that we rehearse at Six in the morning tomorrow, everyone, no matter where they worked or how many house chores they had to do, would show up. Things are different now, at least half the members in the troupe are late to rehearsals claiming to have a busy liefstyle."

Where the police coach SSLC students to success

In order to maintain accountability and transparency, the team collected ₹11 from each student to provide ID cards, snacks, and stationery

Atiya Firdos
BENGALURU

An effort to bring dropouts to the mainstream by Police inspector LY Rajesh from the Bandepalya Police station along with the support of NGOs has succeeded in helping nearly 35 out of 65 students pass in their Secondary School Leaving Certificate (SSLC) supplementary exams through just 21 days coaching.

The initiative was started by him in 2022 and NGOs Raajalanchana and Darpana lent support. Speaking to *The Hindu*, a volunteer of Raajalanchana, Sheetal said, "Once the SSLC results are out, we go to schools in and around HSR layout and collect the list of students who have failed in their exams, talk to their parents about this initiative and that's how we get students to come and learn under us."

Bandepalaya police station inspector L.Y. Rajesh celebrating results of the supplementary examination with his students.

Mr. Rajesh said the main push for the initiative was the increasing number of youth being involved in criminal activities.

Neighbouring schools

She also said that the teachers who teach students under this initiative are from nearby schools with 100% results in their respective subjects and willingly volunteered to do so.

In order to maintain accountability and transparency, the team collected ₹11 from each student to provide ID cards, snacks, necessary stationery and books at a concessional rate during the tuition hours.

Mr. Rajesh said the main push for the initiative was the increasing number of youth being involved in criminal activities. "When I interrogated a couple of youth who were arrested for criminal activities, they told me that they are school dropouts, failed in exams, got into wrong groups and started doing drugs and robbery. Some also end up with depression and suicides and I thought this was the root cause behind increasing number of crimes among youth and rather than arresting and detection, I thought prevention of such action was much needed. Hence, I came up with this initiative and I am happy about the results", he said.

However, this is not the first time that Mr. Rajesh has taken up such initiative. When he was in Attibele, he tried to help and reform rowdy sheeters by trying to provide them jobs. He also conducted classes for competitive exams and some among them are serving as police personnel now. When he served under Mico Layout Police Station, along with the NGO called Daarideepa, he initiated classes for SSLC students before exams.

Parents elated

The Hindu spoke to some students and their parents who passed their SSLC supplementary through the help of this initiative. "I was in tears when I learnt that my daughter Archana made it in her supplementary," said Srinivas. L, who said that he learnt about this initiative through Facebook. "The volunteers taught me every time I had doubts, made me understand in Kannada and that helped me a lot", said Archana who passed her supplementary in Mathematics.

"I failed in three subjects and I thank Rajesh sir and all the teachers and volunteers for helping me understand concepts clearly," said Harish. His mother Pallavi S.E. said she also noticed changes in the behaviour of her son. "He used to get into the wrong groups and never study, but after he has passed his supplementary, he has started working hard," she said.

"The teachers helped a lot and made me understand concepts in the language I was comfortable understanding in," Ashwini, another student, said. Her father, Ravi M., who works in the garment industry, said he was happy when he learnt about the initiative. "For us, who cannot afford huge amount for coaching classes, this initiative was very much helpful and I thank Rajesh sir."

FROM THE ARCHIVES

The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO JULY 11, 1973

Soviet Generators for Mysore Power Projects

Bangalore, July 10: The Mysore Power Corporation, the State Government agency for the construction of electricity projects in the State, to-day entered into a package deal with the Soviet Union under which the latter will supply nearly Rs. 3 crores worth of equipment, including generators for the Linganamakki dam site power house project. Linganamakki is the main reservoir of the Sharavathy Valley hydro-electricity project. The present project is for a small power house near the dam. This is separate from the major power house already in operation.

The deal for the Import of the Soviet equipment to be financed by Soviet credit, came after two days of negotiations with Soviet Government agencies.

Plan Outlay: Khadi Commission's Plea

Bangalore, July 10 : The Khadi and Village Industries Commission has sought an outlay of Rs. 1,055 crores during the Fifth Five-Year Plan.

The Commision expected to push up the production of the Khadi and Village Industries to Rs. 1,077 crores by the end of the Fifth Plan and to give employment to about seven million persons (including about two millions now employed in the Khadi and Village Industries).

This was stated here to-day by Mr. G. Ramachandran, Chairman of the Commision, while speaking to pressmen at the conclusion of the All India Khadi and Village Industries Board meeting here.

INBRIEF

'Meeting soon to fill vacant posts in schools and colleges'

Primary and Secondary Education MInister S. Madhu Bangarappa on Monday assured the Legislative Council that a meeting will soon be convened to decide on filling vacant posts in aided secondary schools and PU colleges that have been created due to retirement, death and resignation after December 2015. Responding to BJP members, who demanded that the vacant posts in these institutions be filled up immediately, the Minister said before 2015, there were 3,794 and 1,396 vacancies in these schools and colleges, respectively. "Additional posts have fallen vacant from 2016 and we will consider filling them up as per rules," he said.

200 vet inspectors to be recruited in two months

Minister for Animal Husbandry and Sericulture K. Venkatesh (*in picture*) on Monday informed the Legislative Assembly that 200 veterinary inspectors would be appointed in the next two months and 400 veterinary doctors by December 2023, to address shortage of veterinary services in the State. In reply to questions of Gururaj Shetty Gantihole and Bharath Shetty of the BJP, Mr. Venkatesh said efforts would be made to transfer veterinary doctors from districts which have highest in number to coastal districts.

BJP forms fact-finding panels

Condemning the murder of Jain monk in Belagavi district and a Hindu activist in Mysuru district, BJP State president Nalin Kumar Kateel has constituted two fact-finding committees to visit the two districts on Tuesday to look into the murders. According to a release by the party, the 11-member committee that would visit Belagavi district will be led by Mr. Kateel himself. The 10-member committee that would visit Mysuru district will be led by party national general secretary C.T. Ravi.

Gruha Lakshmi set for launch on Aug. 16: CM

Government rolls out Anna Bhagya scheme; for the time being money will be transferred to beneficiaries in lieu of rice. Yuva Nidhi, another 'guarantee', to be launched around Nov./Dec.

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar, and Food and Civil Supplies Minister K.H. Muniyappa launching the Anna Bhagya scheme at the Vidhana Soudha in Bengaluru on Monday. SUDHAKARA JAIN

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has said that the much-anticipated Gruha Lakshmi 'guarantee' that entails a monthly assistance of ₹2,000 to women head of the family will be launched on August 16.

He said that since the scheme has to go through application process, it required time to be operational.

He also said that Yuva Nidhi, another 'guarantee' that promises unemployment benefits to graduates and diploma holders passing out from the academic year 2022-2023, will be launched around November/December. "It is 100% guarantee that we will implement our guarantees," he said.

He was speaking during the launch of Anna Bhagya scheme here on Monday.

Why transfer of cash

Defending the transfer of cash in lieu of free 5 kg rice under Anna Bhagya scheme, he said the State government, which wanted to implement the scheme on time, was hard pressed to find rice for Anna Bhagya after the Centre denied supply.

"We had committed to implement the guarantees and launch date (July 1) had been set. Then the BJP government at the Centre despite having a huge stock denied rice, later Karnataka was unable to procure rice from other States, and the Central agencies quoted higher price. The required quantity of rice was not available in Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Punjab," the Chief Minister said.

"Because we had given the word on implementing Anna Bhagya in July, we are launching it. Money would be transferred till we get enough rice supply. We have already started the tendering process," he said.

Anna Bhagya is the third of the five guarantees that the Congress government is implementing after Shakti (free bus travel to women) and Gruha Jyothi (200 units of free power). Costing over ₹10,000 crore annually, Anna Bhagya will benefit 4.42 crore people in 1.28 crore BPL and Antyodaya cards.

The cash transfer involves ₹170 per person every month in lieu of 5 kg free rice. The government has arrived at ₹34, the price of rice per kg at which the Food Corporation of India sells.

On Monday, beneficiaries in Mysuru and Kolar received cash after launch, and over the week DBT will be done to beneficiaries in four districts.

A note from Chief Minister's Office said that on the same day 10 years ago, the first Anna Bhagya scheme was launched by the then Siddaramaiah government.

'Political vengeance'

Attacking the BJP government at the Centre, he asked, "Is it not dirty politics played by Government of India? Should we not call it a political vengeance or anti-poor?"

Eventually, he said while the Centre prevented States from participating in auction, the e-auction did not find any takers.

Sonia likely to attend Opposition parties' meet in Bengaluru

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Deputy Chief Minister and KPCC president D.K. Shivakumar said on Monday that former Congress chief Sonia Gandhi will attend the next meeting of Opposition parties in Bengaluru on July 17 and 18.

A meeting of leaders of all Opposition parties will be held on July 17 and 18, as already announced. AICC president Mallikarjun Kharge has requested Ms. Gandhi to participate in the meeting. "We have got a message that she will be participating in this meeting," Mr. Shivakumar said.

The first meeting of Opposition was held in Bihar's Patna on June 23.

Silent protest planned

Speaking to reporters at the party office here, the KPCC chief said the Congress has planned to hold a silent protest at Freedom Park here on July 12 as a mark of protest against the disqualification of its leader Rahul Gandhi from the Lok Sabha.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Mr. Kharge would participate in the protest. The protest will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. by "covering our mouth with black cloth," Mr. Shivakumar said.

The Congress has said it will move the Supreme Court, after the Gujarat High Court refused to stay Rahul Gandhi's conviction in a 2019 defamation case over his Modi surname remarks, and alleged that the government is finding newer techniques to throttle his voice.

Heart-to-heart chat

BJP leader Ramesh Jarkiholi and JD(S) leader and former Chief Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy in the Legislative Assembly on Monday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Death of Jain monk: BJP demands CBI probe; Home Minister meets seer

The Hindu Bureau
HUBBALLI/BENGALURU

Members of Opposition BJP on Monday demanded a probe by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) into the brutal killing of a Digambar Jain monk in Belagavi and raised suspicions of the Congress government trying to "hide" facts in the murder case.

Meanwhile, Home Minister G. Parameshwara travelled to Varur, on the outskirts of Hubballi, on Monday to convince Jain seer Gunadhar Nandi maharaj to drop his plan of fasting unto death demanding justice for the deceased monk of Belagavi, Kamakumar Nandi Maharaj.

After a detailed discussion with Gunadhar Nandi, he promised to take all necessary steps to ensure justice, following which the seer decided to drop the plan to fast unto death, saying he had full faith in the Minister's words.

Speaking to mediapersons at Varur after meeting the Jain seer, Mr. Parameshwara said that nobody should try to give a political colour to this case and people must stop making irresponsible statements on involvement of unseen hands or making allegation of protecting the accused.

"The accused have been arrested. The investigation is proceeding within the legal framework by a team led by Deputy Superintendent of Police," he said.

In the Assembly, BJP members raised the issue during zero hour and said the murder of Acharya Kamkumar Nandi Maharaj had sent shockwaves. The police have arrested two people, Narayana Basappa Madi and Hassan Dalayath. It is alleged that the murder took place over financial matters, which BJP members said was a "misleading" claim by the police.

> Nobody should try to give a political colour to this case and people must stop making irresponsible statements on the involvement of unseen hands or making allegations of protecting the accused.
>
> **G. PARAMESHWARA**
> Home Minister

Former Chief Minister and BJP leader Basavaraj Bommai said, "This is a cold-blooded, pre-planned murder. This cannot be treated as usual crime. If the case is not handed over to the CBI, then there will be further suspicion that the government is trying to hush up the case."

Reply in House today

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah condemned the incident, and said the government would table its reply on Tuesday.

At Varur, the Home Minister said that the seer had put forward four demands, including protection to Jain monks during their yatra, protection of Jain mandirs, protection of their place of stay during yatras and setting up of separate development corporation for Jains.

Illegal homestays, resorts at Hampi, Anegundi demolished: Minister

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

All homestays and resorts illegally built for commercial purposes on agricultural lands have been demolished at Hampi in Vijayanagara and Anegundi in Koppal districts, Urban Development Minister Byrathi Suresh on Monday informed the Legislative Assembly.

In reply to G. Janardhana Reddy of the Kalyana Rajya Pragathi Paksha during the zero hour, Mr. Suresh said the Hampi World Heritage Area Management Authority administers tourism areas of Hampi and Anegundi. About 15 villages near Anegundi in Gangavathi constituency, represented by Mr. Reddy, fall under the jurisdiction of the Authority.

The authorities have brought down illegally constructed resorts and homestays on agricultural lands. Resorts were constructed without conversion of farm lands for non-agricultural purposes. The constructions on agricultural lands cannot be legalised, Mr. Suresh said.

He said 27 resorts have been demolished and 31 have been locked. The Authority, formed in 2003 had framed a comprehensive development plan for the protection of heritage sites, he said.

Source of income lost

Earlier, Mr. Reddy, former Minister, said more than 2,000 families and close to 10,000 people have been running homestays or "foreign stays" and providing hospitality services to foreign tourists in Anegundi. Families had lost their major sources of livelihood following demolition of homestays at Anegundi in his constituency, he said.

Noting the significance of sites, Mr. Reddy said the G-20 Culture Group meet began in Hampi on Sunday, under India's G20 presidency and it would be held till July 12. The villages should be kept out of the Authority's jurisdiction to ensure functioning of homestays and steady flow of tourists which would ensure livelihood for locals, Mr. Reddy said.

Basavaraj Rayareddi of the Congress said tourist places such as Hampi and Anegundi have become "major drug centers" of Karnataka and opposed commercial activities on farm lands.

Nearly 45% posts in Health Dept. vacant

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Nearly 45% (31,146) of the total 69.811 sanctioned posts in the Health and Family Welfare Department are lying vacant. Of the vacant posts, 9,560 have been outsourced, Health Minister Dinesh Gundu Rao informed the Legislative Council on Monday. Action is being initiated to fill the vacancies, he said.

Responding to members, the Minister said the department will consider providing new smartphones to Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHAs). Making it clear that the services of ASHAs and outsourced AYUSH doctors cannot be regularised, the Minister said that ASHAs are working voluntarily and they are being paid ₹5,000 monthly honorarium. In addition, based on their performance, they get a minimum of ₹5,000 to a maximum of ₹8,000 per month. "Now, under 'Gruha Lakshmi', they will also get ₹2,000 a month," he said.

Of the 43,524 sanctioned posts of ASHAs under the National Health Mission (NHM), 41,119 people are working.

Office of the Electricity Department
Thrissur Corporation, Thrissur
TCED/RDSS-3117/22 Dated : 07.07.2023
THRISSUR CORPORATION ELECTRICITY DEPARTMENT
Re E-Tender Notice
Appointment of Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) Service Provider under RDSS.
log on to :
www.etenders.kerala.gov.in
(Sd/-) Assistant Secretary

GUJARAT URJA VIKAS NIGAM LIMITED
CIN U40109GJ2004SGC045195
ISO 9001 -2015 Certified Company
Sardar Patel Vidyut Bhavan, Racecourse, Vadodara 390007
PBX: (0265) 2310582-86, www.guvnl.com
NOTICE INVITING TENDER
Gujarat Urja Vikas Nigam Limited (GUVNL) RfS No. GUVNL / 500 MW / Wind (Phase VI) dated 10/07/2023 invites Tender for procurement of power through Competitive Bidding (followed by reverse auction) from 500 MW grid connected Wind Power Projects (Phase VI) to be set up anywhere in India with an additional 500 MW capacity under 'Green-shoe Option'. For tender documents (RfS and Draft PPA) and further details please visit www.guvnl.com and https://www.bharat-electronictender.com. **The last date of bid submission is 07/08/ 2023.**
Date: 11-07-2023 **General Manager (RE)**

STATE INDUSTRIES PROMOTION CORPORATION OF TAMIL NADU LIMITED (SIPCOT)
(Government of Tamil Nadu Undertaking)
e-Tender Notice
Tender Reference No. SP-II/T.No.22/Mega Leather Park – Panapakkam/2023, Dated 11-07-2023
Tenders are invited in Two Cover System (Technical bid and Price bid) from reputed Consulting Agencies for the Preparation of Master Plan and Detailed Project Report for setting up of Mega Leather Park at Panapakkam in Ranipet district, Tamil Nadu.

1	Tender Inviting Authority	The Managing Director, SIPCOT, 19-A, Rukmani Lakshmipathy Road, Egmore, Chennai - 600008.
2	Name of the Work	Selection of Consultant for the preparation of Master Plan and Detailed Project Report for setting up of Mega Leather Park at Panapakkam in Ranipet district, Tamil Nadu.
3	Tender Document	Tender document can be downloaded from **11-07-2023 to 31-07-2023.** The tender documents could be downloaded from **www.sipcot.tn.gov.in/ and www.tntenders.gov.in.** at free of cost.
4	Bid Security	**Rs.51,000/-**
5	Due Date & Time of submission of e-tender	**31-07-2023 upto 3.00 PM**
6	Date & Time of opening of e-tender	**31-07-2023 at 4.00 PM.**

DIPR/ 3561 /TENDER/2023 **MANAGING DIRECTOR**
"சோதனை கடந்து சுதந்திரம் அடைந்தோம், சாதனை புரிந்து சரித்திரம் படைப்போம்."

idco Your power to grow ISO 9001 & 14001 Corporation | ODISHA NEW OPPORTUNITIES
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF GENERAL MANAGER (P&C), IDCO, IDCO TOWER, BHUBANESWAR.
Tender Call Notice No. File No. :HO/P&C/EST/E-2353/03/2023 / 21004 Dated : 06.07.2023
Bid Identification No. : P&C/EST/E-67/2023-24
NOTICE INVITING TENDER THROUGH e-PROCUREMENT
Name of the Work : Construction of 11 kV UG cable and RMU for bifurcation of 11kV industry and new industry feeder at Chandaka I/E under Electrical section, Chandrasekharpur 2, Khurda (under MSE-CDP Scheme)

Procurement Officer	Tender Value	Period of Completion	Availability of Tender On-Line for Bidding	
			From	To
1	2	3	4	5
Chief General Manager (P&C), IDCO, IDCO Tower, Bhubaneswar.	Rs.1,82,89,534.00	04 (Four Calendar Months)	10.00 Hours of dt:14.07.2023	17.00 Hours on dt:17.08.2023

Further details can be seen from the e-Procurement Portal, **www.Tendersodisha.gov.in** and Corrigendum if any will be published in the news papers and can only be seen in the **e-Procurement** portal as well as in **IDCO website.**
Sd/- **Chief General Manager (P&C)**
CAD-1204 OIPR-14003/11/0107/2324

No.32362 / BMC Dt. 10.07.23
BHUBANESWAR MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
COMPETITIVE BIDDING THROUGH e-Procurement
NOTICE INVITING TENDER
Bid Reference No. BMC-EE-DD-11/2023-24 dtd.10.07.2023
File No. XXXXX (V) Drainage -127/2019
On behalf of the Commissioner, Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC), on-line e-tender **Item Rate Bid**s are invited by the Superintending Engineer, Drainage Division, and BMC from the intending and eligible class/category of bidders in conformity with the Detailed Tender Call Notice for **"Conducting Drone Survey, Hydrographic Survey with Preparation of DPR and Estimate for Rejuvenation of Water Bodies under the jurisdiction of Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation "**.
It is, urged that all the intending bidders should go through the tender call notice and DTCN thoroughly and submit their bids accordingly. In case of any miss-match or inconsistency or contradiction among different clauses/conditions/instructions/ information furnished in this tender call notice or in the DTCN, then necessary clarification shall be issued by Superintending Engineer, BMC Drainage Division on specific request without compromising the transparency, Clarifications required, if any, on any matter related to this tender notice, shall be furnished by an authorized officer of BMC Drainage Division (during office hours only) till the stipulated last date and time of submission of on-line tender.
1. **Total No. of works for which Tenders invited : 03 (Three)**
2. **Place of Execution : Different locations in Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation area.**
3. **Estimated Cost : Rs.27,48,000/- to Rs. 45,06,000/-**
4. **Intending bidders have to participate through "On-Line" bidding only. The website for online bidding is https://www.tendersodisha.gov.in.**
5. **The bid documents will be available in the above website from 11.00 AM on Dt.11.07.2023 to 5.00 P.M on Dt.17.07.2023, for online bidding.**
6. **Bids received online will be opened at 11.00A.M. on Dt.18.07.2023**
7. **The bidder must possess valid and compatible Digital Signature Certificate (DSC).**
8. The DTCN of works shall be available in the e-procurement portal **https://www.tendersodisha.gov.in** for on-line bidding.

On behalf of Commissioner, BMC, Bhubaneswar
Superintending Engineer, Drainage Division, BMC
C - 779 OIPR-13002/11/0082/2324

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

IN MEMORIAM

IN MEMORIAM

N. JAYARAMAN
(ADVOCATE)
D.O.D - 11TH JULY 2018

YOU HAVE LEFT YEARS AGO.
BUT YOU ARE NEVER GONE FROM OUR MEMORIES AND HEART.

THE WONDERFUL MEMORIES ARE SOLACE FOREVER

N.JAYARAMAN ASSOCIATE
K.VENKATRAMANI, (ADVOCATE)
98867 81410

Life as a white-voiced, brown artiste

Artiste Renao talks about his debut EP and his journey as an Indian musician in the United Kingdom

Ruth Dhanaraj

Badminton by day, music by night.

That is how Rahul Prasad a.k.a Renao wandered into the world of music. Growing up as a talented badminton player, Rahul who had represented Karnataka at the national level, was pretty sure the Olympics was where he was headed. That was until he attended an Avicii concert.

"It was my first music concert and I learnt all his songs so I'd be cool in front of my friends," he candidly admits, adding, "I was blown away by the experience! When I got back home, I spent my spare time on YouTube trying to figure out the special effects and the entire electronic music experience."

Like many a sportsperson, Rahul was exempt from regular classes.

"The option to appear for PU exams without attending classes gave me ample time to train; on the flip side, it left me without too many friends and that is when I turned to music.

By the time he was 19 and ready to enrol in college, Rahul was the state topper in badminton and among the top 10 in the country.

"I knew I had to choose and though I was better at badminton than music, I couldn't think of giving it up. That decision saw me relocate to Leeds in the United Kingdom to study music production."

Once there, Rahul began to appreciate the nuances of ambient EDM (electronic dance music). "I saw other artistes were also playing instruments or participating as backing vocalists for their music; it encouraged me to take up voice lessons too."

Brown boy in the ring Rahul Prasad a.k.a Renao. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

I realised I didn't come all this way to not be authentic. It gave me the confidence to be open and honest about my music.

RENAO
Singer-songwriter

Catapult to fame

For almost a year after that, Rahul began to work on the kind of music he wanted to make as well as perfecting his sound.

Towards the end of 2021, he posted his song , 'Nobody' on TikTok. "It was just the last 30 seconds of the song, but when I woke up the next morning, it had garnered 400,000 views! It was unthinkable!"

Rahul says his life took a turn with the success of 'Nobody' – any video posted with that song would get numerous hits.

"My life became fast-paced soon after and I signed my first label; I was working on my EP. The problem is when you enjoy a moment like that, you want to keep hitting those numbers; you get lost in the likes, the number of views and the attention. I started making videos on TikTok that I knew could go viral."

"However, the reason I went viral in the first place was because I made something honest and authentic to myself. Once I began working for the 'likes,' I realised I had started losing my personality and my focus and I broke away from that mindset."

Colour coded

When you move to a new place, you try to fit in and Rahul was no different.

"In pop culture, the brown guy is always the IT chap, the sidekick – never the main role," he says, adding that though the scenario is changing now, it is not fast enough.

"I wanted to fit in so bad I changed my accent, despite being able to sing well."

"I can't name a single brown artiste who sings in English," says Rahul. "I think it's because Western culture looks at the Indian accent as a bad thing and we ourselves look at it in that context. Most artistes, such as ABBA and myself as well, go with an American accent as it is rather generic."

"I wish I didn't have to do that. I would tell people I went to an international school in India with a lot of American kids, that's why I have an American accent. But now, I'm honest about my accent because I don't want another kid who comes here to feel compelled to do the same thing."

Collaboration with Zach Nahome

Rahul began working with producer Zach Nahome soon after the success of 'Nobody' in 2021. It was Nahome, who has worked with other popular UK-based artistes such as Slowthai, Bakar and PinkPantheress among others, who urged Rahul to tell his story.

"Zach encouraged me to tell people 'where you're from and what you're trying to achieve'." And I realised I didn't come all this way to not be authentic. It gave me the confidence to be open and honest about my music."

Though Rahul was born in Bengaluru and grew up listening to Western music with his parents, as a family they hail from Kerala. "I didn't listen to a lot of Indian music as a child, but my grandmother used to sing to me all the time. I felt instead of using 'bhangra' beats or other typical Indian stylings, I would use my grandmother's voice / song in my music."

'Always Be Me' with the vocal stylings of Rahul's grandmother, Yamuna Bhai, is part of his recently-released nine-track EP, *A Space Between Orange and Blue*. The EP which came out on June 2 has garnered over 500k hits on various streaming platforms since then.

Stage name

"I'm not British, I'm Indian and the idea behind 'A Space Between Orange and Blue' is that when you add orange and blue together you get brown. Orange stands for the colours that make the Karnataka flag and blue for the British one. I know there are a lot of artistes making English music in India right now, but they should be able to do it globally as well."

"I think it'd be so cool to have an Indian girl band," he adds.

Talking about his stage name, Rahul says he was googling names in different languages when he came across 'Renao,' which is Chinese for "lively or bustling". "That is how I wanted my work to be so I took it up as my stage name. Besides Rahul is quite common in India now – I know two other Indian artistes with the same name," he laughs.

As a songwriter, Rahul believes his best work and inspiration come from experiencing life. "I need to be able to live my life in order to be able to make the music I want to."

Toy stories

Praveen S

It is tough to box Yashaswini Raghunandan's *That Cloud Never Left*, produced by P Sainath's Peoples Archive of Rural India, into a fictional or documentary feature film. On the one hand, the film is so devoid of drama it *feels* like we are witnessing village life languidly unfold with all its mundaneness first hand. On the other hand, there is a subtle poetry that runs through the film, beginning from its title. So, it is definitely not an attempt to document reality.

Yashaswini, thankfully, inserts this intertitle at the beginning to clarify: This is a work of fiction. Only people, places, and the work are real. For the rest, any resemblance to anything that might have actually happened or dreamt of is purely coincidental.

The film's inception itself was purely coincidental. Seven years ago, Yashaswini, when she visited her mother at a hospital, she saw and heard *kyatketi*, a handcrafted toy that rattles when rotated. Soon, she started finding it in other places, including her childhood. The rattling noise made it readily noticeable and Yashaswini was fascinated by it.

"There are multiple ways of looking at it. It's not just about the sound; the red glaze paper adds to its appeal. When you look through it, everything appears red. It evokes a particular sensation," she says,

"Upon closer inspection, you realise the paper is actually a piece from a 35-millimetre film reel. So, if you purchase a bunch of the toys, you can get the entire film cut into pieces."

The fascination for *kyatketi* took her to its birthplace: the village of Daspara in Murshidabad, West Bengal. She spent two years (2016 to 2018) interacting with the villagers. *That Cloud Never Left* is the result of that interaction.

Reality check Filmmaker Yashaswini Raghunandan (below) and a still from her film, 'That Cloud Never Left.' SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The poetic title refers to a lunar eclipse, when the moon turns red – arguably the only dramatic moment in the otherwise deliberately unobtrusive film. The cosmic event seems to break the monotony of the lives of the characters, who are the actual villagers of Daspara.

The film, which premiered in 2019 at the prestigious International Film Festival Rotterdam, was also showcased at the Yamagata International Documentary Film Festival, Hamburg Film Festival, and Jio MAMI Mumbai Film Festival, among others. It also won the Best Experimental Film award at Sharjah Film Program 2019. Vikalp Bengaluru, a community of documentary enthusiasts, in collaboration with Bangalore International Centre (BIC), screened the film last week at BIC.

That Cloud Never Left won the Best Experimental Film award at the Sharjah Film Program 2019

Four years after the film's premiere, Yashaswini feels she could have made it better. "I think I should have followed the strife of the villagers' lives more. Right now, it is more folktale-ish, which is also enjoyable. And, I am glad the way it is. If I get another go at it, I would follow the nature of their lives a bit more," she says.

Though the film received appreciation in the festival circuit, Yashaswini feels she and her team were perhaps a bit overindulgent with the film's form. At the BIC screening, an audience member asked her, "Did you worry about the film being obscure?"

It is perhaps a question that most arthouse filmmakers mull over. "The truth is, when you are making the film, you're immersed in its world. Four years after making it, I think a lot more about it."

Kannada teleplay featuring Ashutosh Rana

Marathi playwright Jaywant Dalvi's play *Purush* is about the many shades of patriarchy.

The play has been made into a teleplay with Hindi film actor Ashutosh Rana in a pivotal role. It has been directed by Saurabh Shrivastava who has directed plays such as *Gudiya Ki Shaadi, Shireen Shah, The Relationship Agreement, Court Martial, Typecaste* and *Aaj Rang Hai*

The play has been dubbed into Kannada as part of the platform's South-Special bouquet that Zee Theatre has put together.

The story depicts an ideological battle between the central character named Ambika and a corrupt politician. When this conflict leads to a horrific gender crime, Ambika does not let it break her spirit. In fact, with integrity, she stands up not just for herself but also for the dignity of all women.

In her quest for justice, she also addresses the passive and aggressive ways in which society oppresses women. The play also stars Paromita Chatterjee, Deepak Qazir, Gulki Joshi and Neha Sar.

Purush will be streamed on July 15 at 2pm and 8pm on Tata Play Theatre

How this sculptor gives shape to her feelings using clay

"I put all my feelings into my work," says Bengaluru-based sculptor Aarti Gupta Bhadauria, who recently held a solo exhibition of her terracotta sculptures at the Karnataka Chitrakala Parishath. This recently concluded show, titled *Waves of Feelings*, was curated by Isha Phillips and Sarbani Chatterjee.

From 'Waves of Attraction', a complex, fluid network of crests and troughs to 'Reflection of Thoughts', which resembles a womb, and 'Wave of Blossom', a gently blooming rose, every sculpture that is part of this exhibition comes from a deep well of emotion.

"I am an emotional person, and I feel waves of it in my heart," says Aarti. "This is my soul," says the artist, who grew up in Gwalior and holds a bachelor's degree in Fine Arts with a specialization in sculpture.

Status fluid Aarti Gupta Bhadauria. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Aarti says she has always wanted to be different. It is why she chooses to mould her sculptures out of clay, using only a wire cutter. Talking about what draws her to clay, she says, "If you make something out of fibre or metal, you need a mould. I don't like being restricted by that."

Instead, she creates aerial, handmade sculptures made without armature, an aesthetic honed over nearly 20 years, since she began back in 2004. "I chose this material because it is an ancient one and no one promotes it, "she says, pointing out that clay is often restricted to pottery or folk art. "It takes me six months to make every piece," says Aarti, who moved to Bengaluru in 2009.

Aarti, who has exhibited both in India and the US, says she prefers to let the clay guide her. "I go with the flow," she adds.

CITYBEATS

A play by Tahatto

JULY 16, 3.30PM AND 7.30PM
Tahatto will stage its play *Love in the Cholera of Time* at Rangashankara.
The 90-minute long English play is a science fiction romantic drama based on the "Einsteinian laws of time and Shakespearean whimsies of love".
Directed by Prashanth Kumar Nair, the play is open to anyone aged 12 years and above.
Tickets on BookMyShow.

Bastille Day special

JULY 14, 6PM ONWARDS
Celebrate Bastille Day with a special menu, crafted by chef Amiel Guerin, the founder of Amiel Gourmet. The menu will be a unique blend of French gastronomy and innovation with plum chutney and arugula; red tuna encased with tapenade, anchovy and confit pepper on potato to name a few.
At Padukone-Dravid Centre for Sports and Excellence. Call 9845862027

Hot, crispy bites

ON TILL JULY 31
Khandani Rajdhani has launched its annual monsoon festival called Varsharutu. The menu offers you a range of *khichdi* – cheesy *hari bhari khichdi*, Rajwadi *khichdi*, *vaghareli khichdi*, and spicy *kathiyawadi khichdi*. These will be served with crisp *pakoras* in *paneer, aloo*, bread and spinach options. Available at all Khandani Rajdhani outlets and is priced at ₹149 plus taxes.

You can change schemes but policies need to go on: Bommai

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Former Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai on Monday questioned the government's intention of dropping several schemes/programmes started by the previous BJP government.

"You can change schemes but policies need to continue. National Education Policy (NEP) did not happen in a day. The changes were long pending and a task force worked here for one year before Karnataka became the first State to implement NEP. Now if your focus is changing the changes that we brought in, what will be the effect on students and their future development? Parties change, but governance is a continuous process and policies need to continue," Mr. Bommai said in the Assembly.

BRS will strongly oppose Centre's Uniform Civil Code plan, says KCR

Telangana Chief Minister says move to introduce UCC forms part of the divisive politics of the Centre; clarifies the party's stand when a delegation of Muslim scholars and representatives of the All India Muslim Personal Law Board calls on him

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

The Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) announced that it has decided to strongly oppose the Uniform Civil Code proposed by the Centre.

BRS president and Telangana Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao said that the move to introduce Uniform Civil Code forms part of the divisive politics of the Centre, which is fuelling differences between people.

The BRS will strongly oppose any move aimed at disturbing the peaceful coexistence among the people of the country, he said.

The Chief Minister clarified the ruling party's stand on the issue when a delegation of Muslim scholars and representatives of the All India Muslim Personal Law Board led by MP and Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen president Asaduddin Owaisi called on him on Monday.

Telangana Chief Minister KCR with the delegation of Muslim scholars and representatives of the All India Muslim Personal Law Board in Hyderabad on Monday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The delegation appealed to the Chief Minister to oppose the proposed Bill as it is a threat to the customs and traditions of different communities, and thereby work for protecting the unity among the people. Mr. Rao responded asserting that the Bill is clearly "ill-intentioned" and the BJP, over the past nine years, is trying to gain political mileage through such issues rather than focussing on development.

"The BRS will strongly oppose the divisive politics of the Centre," he said.

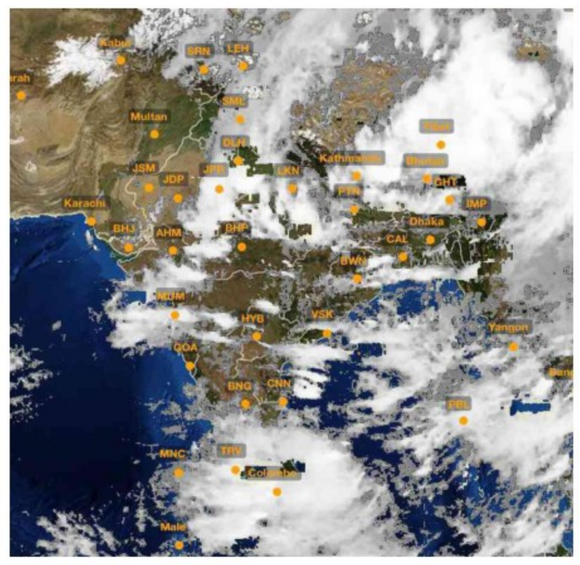
UDF rules out any concord with CPI(M)

The Hindu Bureau
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

The Congress-led United Democratic Front (UDF) in Kerala ruled out any concord with the Communist Party of India (Marxist) in its attempt to forge an eclectic front against the Centre's bid to draft a Uniform Civil Code. Leader of the Opposition V.D. Satheesan, who chaired a UDF leadership conclave here, said the BJP reignited the UCC debate to divide society on religious lines.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Tuesday: Heavy/very heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Himachal Pradesh, Chandigarh, Delhi, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, Tripura, Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Odisha, coastal Andhra Pradesh, Yanam, Madhya Pradesh, Konkan & Goa, coastal Karnataka, Kerala and Mahe

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	1	33.8	27.2	Kozhikode	4	32.0	25.0
Ahmedabad	5	31.0	26.0	Kurnool	1	34.3	25.5
Aizawl	—	29.0	22.6	Lucknow	60	33.7	25.0
Allahabad	33	35.1	27.0	Madurai	1	39.2	26.4
Bengaluru	1.1	28.5	21.2	Mangaluru	2.8	30.8	24.0
Bhopal	—	—	24.7	Mumbai	13	31.8	26.2
Bhubaneswar	0.1	36.0	26.0	Mysuru	3	29.0	21.2
Chandigarh	160.6	—	24.9	New Delhi	107.3	31.4	25.1
Chennai	30	34.0	25.0	Patna	2	36.3	27.8
Coimbatore	0.2	32.6	22.9	Port Blair	9	30.3	23.8
Dehradun	47	31.2	22.8	Puducherry	—	32.2	26.8
Gangtok	3	22.6	19.3	Pune	0.6	30.0	22.9
Goa	16	30.9	24.3	Raipur	—	33.4	26.5
Guwahati	0.6	35.0	27.0	Ranchi	—	32.0	23.6
Hubballi	—	28.0	23.0	Shillong	—	26.4	21.4
Hyderabad	10	32.9	23.7	Shimla	103	19.1	17.8
Imphal	—	27.1	22.7	Srinagar	—	29.0	17.2
Jaipur	63	29.8	25.6	Thiruvananthapuram	—	32.8	25.2
Kochi	2	30.0	24.6	Tiruchi	0.7	37.7	26.6
Kohima	2	24.8	18.4	Vijayawada	35	33.4	25.0
Kolkata	—	35.1	29.3	Visakhapatnam	0.3	35.3	28.2

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.38	.35	.37	51	95	
Bengaluru	2	.16	.68	28	70	
Chennai	3	.65	.52	49	46	
Delhi	—	.15	108	34	42	
Hyderabad	.12	7	.39	68	76	
Kolkata	.16	.12	.23	33	62	
Lucknow	6	.31	.50	34	56	
Mumbai	—	.19	100	35	42	
Pune	132	223	111	63	56	
Visakhapatnam	—	—	.23	—	—	—

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Jaipur, Rajasthan recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 364 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Aizawl, Mizoram recorded a healthy AQI score of 15

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

63-year-old dispute settled at Lok Adalat

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The national-level Lok Adalat held in all the courts across the State on July 8 has resulted in amicable settlement of 34.76 lakh cases, including 2,54,344 cases pending in the courts and the 32,25,887 pre-litigation cases.

A 63-year-old civil dispute pending in the court of principal civil judge, Hubballi, and a 41-year-old suit pending in Gadag district court were among the oldest cases in which the litigants settled their prolonged civil disputes amicably in the Lok Adalat.

Addressing media persons here on Monday, Justice G. Narendar, a judge of the Karnataka High Court and the Executive-Chairperson of the Karnataka State Legal Services Authority (KSLSA), said that the settlement of various disputes resulted in settlement a total amount of ₹1,911 crore to the satisfaction of the litigants.

Mr. Narendar urged people to settle traffic rule violation cases by availing the 50% discount being offered by the State government on KSLSA's suggestion.

Justice K. Somashekhar, a judge of the High Court and Chairperson of the HC Legal Services Committee, said that 1,874 matrimonial cases pending in the family courts were settled amicably and 243 couples in dispute had put to rest their differences.

SC protects editor of online portal from arrest

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Monday stayed the arrest of Shajan Skaria, editor and publisher of the YouTube channel *Marunadan Malayali*, in a case registered on a complaint by MLA P.V. Sreenijin under the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act.

"His statements may be defamatory, but these are not offences under the Act. He may have said something against the father-in-law (of the complainant), judiciary, etc, which may be in bad taste," Chief Justice D.Y. Chandrachud observed orally.

The top court's interim protection came on the appeal filed by Mr. Skaria after the Kerala High Court dismissed his plea for anticipatory bail.

The case was registered on the allegation that Mr. Skaria had intentionally humiliated Mr. Sreenijin by making false allegations and accusations through a video uploaded on his channel. Senior advocate V. Giri, for Mr. Sreenijin, urged the court to at least go through the transcript of the video.

However, the court said it had gone through the transcript and was doubtful whether Mr. Skaria's comments amounted to a caste slur. Mr. Giri said the key lay in finding out whether Mr. Skaria had a deliberate intention to insult on the basis of caste.

The court issued notice to Mr. Sreenijin through Mr. Giri. Meanwhile, the Kerala High Court on Monday came down heavily on the police for seizing the mobile of a senior journalist in connection with a case registered against Shajan Skaria.

Justice P.V. Kunhikrishnan made the oral observation when a writ petition filed by G. Vaishakan, senior journalist with *Mangalam* daily, alleging police harassment came up for hearing.

(With inputs from Kochi)

SMART CITY THIRUVANANTHAPURAM LIMITED
CIN U75302KL2017SGC05027

E- TENDER NOTICE

E-Tenders are invited for the following projects of Smart City Thiruvananthapuram Limited Project Area 1) Request for proposal RFP for Selection of Contractor for Development of Smart Roads and Underground Ducting Including Utility Shifting of Water Supply and Power lines in ABD area Under Smart (Corporation Roads) in Thiruvananthapuram.

Sl. No.	Name of Project	E-Tender ID	PAC Amount (Exclusive Of GST	Bid Submission Last Date
Selection of Contractor for Development of Smart Roads and Underground Ducting Including Utility Shifting of Water Supply and Power lines in ABD area Under Smart (Corporation Roads) in Thiruvananthapuram.				
1	Charithra Veedhi Road -ID 51B	2023_ SCTLT_579672_2	Rs. 6,51,817 /-	13-Jul-2023
2	MRT Road-ID 185	2023_ SCTLT_552621_4	Rs.1,66,77,152/-	18-Jul-2023
3	Justice Sankaranarayana Street ID 100	2023_ SCTLT_551252_4	Rs.2,64,00,214/-	20-Jul-2023
4	Thycaud Police Ground Road ID 27	2023_ SCTLT_551769_2	Rs.3,35,40,343/-	21-Jul-2023

Date and Time of Opening Price Bid: To Be Intimated Separately to Technically Qualified Bidders by e-mail.
All the RFP documents and details are available on the e-Procurement Website.
Bids are only accepted online on the Website **https://etenders.kerala.gov.in**

(sd/-) CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
SMART CITY THIRUVANANTHAPURAM Ltd.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The General Public is hereby informed that, our client intends to PURCHASE the immovable property more fully described in the schedule property hereunder from its present owners i.e., **Mr. AMIT PASHINE**, son of Mr. Rajkumar Pashine @ R. R. Pashine and **Mrs. URMI KARMAKAR @ URMI PASHINE**, wife of Mr. Amit Pashine, both are Residing at House No.3035/1A, opposite St. Gabriel School, Ranjhi, Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh – 482 005.

Any persons, financial institutions having any sort of claim / rights / interest / charge on the below said property or any objections for the said sale of the property may file their objections in writing along with supporting documents, addressed to the undersigned within 07 days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which, it shall be construed that there are no claims of any sort over the below said properties and our client shall be advised to proceed with the proposed transaction. Any claims thereafter shall not be entertained.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL of the Three Bedroom apartment bearing Flat No.661, having BBMP Katha No.2068/691/53/3/Flat No.661, on the 6th floor, in Block "INDIGO", in the Building Complex known as "DSR RAINBOW HEIGHTS", having a super built up area of 1558 Square Feet, with one covered car parking space in the basement/Ground floor, along with 561 square feet of undivided right, title and interest in the immovable property constructed in converted land bearing Old Sy.No.53/3, Now bearing BBMP New Katha No.691, measuring 2 acre 37 guntas (conversion order bearing No.BDS.ALN.SR(S)137/1995-96, dated 27.12.1996, issued by Special Deputy Commissioner(Revenue), Bangalore District, and Renewed order No.ALN(S)6/2004-05, dated 05.07.2004, Situated at Haralukunte Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, presently coming under the jurisdiction of Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), Bangalore.

Sd/- **LAW PARK ASSOCIATES,**
Advocate, 6th Sector,
HSR Layout, Bangalore-560 102.
helpdesk@lawpark.in
+91 80 41715959, +91 98456 65379

DISTRICT HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE OFFICE , TUMKUR
Ph:08116-2278387 E-mail:dhotumkur@gmail.com
No.DHT/EST(2)/47/2022-23 Date: 06.07.2023

TENDER NOTIFICATION

Tenders are invited for procurement of 17 Pharmacy officers and 09 Junior Medical lab technical officers posts for the year 2022-23 to the Health Institutions under the control of District Health and Family welfare Office Tumkur to be filled from outsource services from registered firms under E-procurment Portal, for more details interested Tenderers may visit http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in website. And Tender documents, may be download from the website., for more details Tenderers may contact the undersigned officers during office hours

Sd/-**DISTRICT HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE OFFICER, TUMKUR.**

DIPR/TUM/67/KSMCA/2023-24

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN:U40109KA1999SGC025521)
No. KPTCL/KCO-32/52023/2023-24 Date:11.07.2023

TENDER NOTIFICATION (e-Procurement mode only)

KPTCL is inviting separate bids vide **Notification No. KPTCL EFBF-01/2023-24 dt:11.07.2023 and KPTCL EFBF-02/2023-24 dt:11.07.2023** for placing KPTCL Employees Family Benefit Fund (EFBF) in Public Sector Banks, Regional Rural Banks and Private Sector Scheduled Commercial Banks (through e-procurement portal) in term/fixed deposit for a period of 1 year. The Banks may access BID document from the e-procurement portal **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in on or after Date:11.07.2023.** For further details contact **Controller (Finance), KPTCL, Kaveri Bhavan, 6th floor, Bengaluru-560009. Office Contact No. 080- 22211707, Mobile No. 9480830140.**

Sd/-Chief Engineer, Electricity, Tendering & Procurement, KPTCL, 3rd Floor, Kaveri Bhavan, Bengaluru-560 009.

Karnataka Road Development Corporation Limited
(A Government of Karnataka Enterprise)
No.8, "Samparka Soudha", Dr. Rajkumar Road, Rajajinagar 1st Block, Bengaluru-560 010. Telefax : 080-22024000
e-mail : cekrdcl@gmail.com Website: http://www.krdcl.in

No. KRDCL/IFB/2023-24/08 **Date: 10.07.2023**

INVITATION OF SHORT TERM BIDS FOR CONSULTANCY SERVICES (QCBS BASIS)

Karnataka Road Development Corporation Limited (KRDCL) proposes to invites bids from reputed Consultants for providing Consultancy Services for preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) for the work of development of road form Devanahalli-Vijapura-H.Cross-Vemagal-Maluru to Tamil Nadu Border for length of 123 Kms under Hybrid Annuity Mode (including Hoskote - Malur spur road) on Quality & Cost Based Selection (QCBS). Interested bidders can participate through Karnataka Public Procurement portal and documents can be downloaded from website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** The last date of receipt of tender is on **20.07.2023 upto 17.30 hours** & Technical bids will be opened on **21.07.2023 at 11.00 hours.**

Note: Please note henceforth, any changes in the schedule will not be published through News Papers and further changes if any, will be updated only on KPP-portal / KRDCL Website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in / http://www.krdcl.in**

Sd/- Chief Engineer KRDCL, Bengaluru

DIPR/CP/BCPL/497/2023-24

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, RWS&S DIVISION, BALASORE
Tel: 06782-262249, Fax: 262931, email: eerwss_bls@nic.in, eerwssbls@gmail.com
NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING THROUGH e-Tendering
Identification No. 14/2023-24 Dt. 07.07.2023

The Superintending Engineer, RWS&S Division, Balasore on behalf of the Governor of Odisha invites bids from bidders of eligible class registered with the Odisha State Government and bidders of equivalent Grade / Class registered with Central Government / MES / Railways for the works detailed in the table below to be eventually drawn up in P1 contract with design and execution of the following Piped Water Supply Projects.

1.	Nos. of Work	: **2 (two) nos Retrofitting RPWS Schemes under Remuna block of Balasore district.**
2.	Estimated cost	: **Rs.121.07 lakhs & Rs.146.35 lakhs.**
3.	Period of completion	: **330 days**
4.	Availability of bid document in Portal	: **Dt.14.07.2023 at 10.00 hours to 29.07.2023 up to 17.00 hours through online.**
5.	Seeking of Clarification	: **Dt.17.07.2023 at 10.00 hours to Dt.24.07.2023 upto 15.00 hours.**
6.	Date of opening of Bid	: **Dt.31.07.2023 at 11.00 hours in the O/O EE, RWSS Division, Balasore.**
7.	Name and address of the Officer Inviting Tender.	: **Superintending Engineer, RWS&S Division, Balasore**

Bid Cost will be receipt through electronic payment by NEFT/RTGS.
Further details can be seen from the e-Procurement Portal : **http://tendersodisha.gov.in**

SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, RWS&S DIVISION, BALASORE.
O-324 : OIPR-25013/11/0005/2324

By E-Mail/e-Despatch E_Mail ID:-serwcbaripada@gmail.com;Ph.No.06792-261343/261344
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER, Gangraj,Baripada
RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, BARIPADA
"e" Procurement Notice for Building Work
Identification No.- Online Tender-Building N.C.B. No.286 for 2023-24
Letter No. 3204 / Date : 07.07.2023 //

1.	Name of the Work	: **Construction of (MPH) Building Works Year 2023-24 in the District of Mayurbhanj.**
2.	Total No. of Work	: **05 No. (Five)**
3.	Estimated Cost	: **Rs.430.00 Lakh** (approximately).
4.	Eligible Class of Contractor	: **'A' Class**
5.	Period of Completion	: **06 Calendar months.**
6.	Other details	

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of Tender On-line for bidding From	To	Last Date & Time of seeking tender Clarification	Date & Time of Opening of Tender in O/O C.C.E.R.W.Circle,Baripada. Technical Bid	Financial Bid
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Baripada.	**Building On-line N.C.B. No.286**	**Dt.12.07.2023 at 11.00 A.M.**	**Dt.26.07.2023 up to 5.00 P.M.**	**Dt.25.07.2023 up to 5.00 P.M.**	**Dt.27.07.2023 at 11.00 A.M.**	**Will be intimated later**

- **Further details can be seen from the website: www.tendersodisha.gov.in**
- **Any Corrigendum / Addendum will be displayed in the above e_tender website only.**

Chief Construction Engineer, R.W.Circle, Baripada.
O-328 : OIPR-25130/11/0013/2324

KARNATAKA URBAN WATER SUPPLY & DRAINAGE BOARD
KALABURAGI ZONE, KALABURAGI
Office of the Chief Engineer, KUWS & D Board, Kalaburagi Zone,
"Jalbhavan", Rajapur, Kusnoor Road, Kalaburagi – 585105. Tel : 08472-220817,
Fax : 08472-260818, E-mail ID : kwbceklb14@gmail.com

No. KWB/CE(K)/TEC/KHB-Ballari/ 386 /2023-24 Date : 07-07-2023

-: TENDER NOTIFICATION – 2nd Call:-

1) Detail of Work: Providing and Laying of Water Supply facilities to Sy. No.1015 to 1026 beside Guggarhatti Ring Road in Ballari under DC works with Karnataka Housing Board (Lumpsum)- No Variation **(Work Indent No : KUWSDB/2023-24 / WS / WORK_INDENT22)**, 2) Amount of Estimate: **Rs. 291.56 Lakhs (Excluding GST),** 3) Eligibility of Contractor: Eligible Contractors. 4) Details of Tender application amount and EMD amount: Rs.5,16,000/- 5) Period of Completion: 09 (Nine Months Including Monsoon), 6) Date & Time of Pre-Bid Meeting: **25-07-2023 Up to 11:30 Hours,** 7) Last Date and Time for receipt of Tenders: **11-08-2023 Up to 17:30 Hours**, 8) Date and Time for Opening of Tender : **14-08-2023 After 11:00 Hours**, 9) Addl. information: Office of the Chief Engineer, KUWS & D Board, Kalaburagi Zone, "Jalbhavan", Rajapur, Kusnoor Road, Tel : 08472-220817, Fax : 08472-260818, E-mail ID : kwbceklb14@gmail.com, 10) Address of E-portal: **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in.**

Sd/- Chief Engineer
DIPR/Kalaburagi/102/MC&A/2023-24 **KUWS & D Board, Kalaburagi Zone, Kalaburagi**

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public at large are hereby informed that our client Mr. Ayub Khan, S/o.Mr. Sattar Khan, residing at No.8/2, MM Garden, 3rd Cross, 80 Ft., Road, Near Samsung Service Center, 6th Block Koramangala, Bangalore South Bangalore - 560095 is intending to purchase the Schedule Property from Mrs. Madiha Mayhek, D/o.Mr. Azam Pasha.

Therefore, people who are having objections or claims with respect to the Schedule Property are hereby called upon to submit their Objections / claims within Fifteen days from the date of this notice.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of immovable property bearing Site No.130A, Old Khatha No.90, New Khatha No.166, Sy. No.172/3, situated at Billekahalli Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, presently comes under BBMP Limits, measuring East to West 50 Feet and North to South 60 Feet, totally measuring 3000 Sq. Ft., and bounded on: - East by: Site No.129A, West by:Site No.131A, North by: Site No.130, South by : Road.

M.G.C. & Co.,
Advocates and Solicitors
No.66, 4th Cross, Xavier Layout,
Behind Vijay Kiran Apartment
Bangalore - 560047
Bangalore Ph. No.25546276
10.07.2023 Mob:9449400145

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public at large are hereby informed that our client Mrs. Madiha Mayhek, D/o. Mr. Azam Pasha, residing at Nanjappa Circle, Shanthinagar, Bengaluru–560027 is intending to purchase the Schedule Property from Mrs.Rehana Kousar, W/o. Mujeeb Ur Rehman and Mr. Khuthub Us Zama, S/o. Mujeeb Ur Rehman.

Therefore, people who are having objections or claims with respect to the Schedule Property are hereby called upon to submit their Objections / claims within Fifteen days from the date of this notice.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

Item No.1: All that piece and parcel of immovable property bearing Site No.18,KhathaNo.1423, Old Khatha No.17/18,situated at Rechanahalli Village, K.R. Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, measuring East to West 15 Feet and North to South 20 Feet, in all measuring 300 Sq. Ft., and bounded on: - East by : Site No.19, West by: Site No.20, North by : Site No.73, South by: Road.

Item No.2: All that piece and parcel of immovable property bearing Site No.132A, Old Khatha No.90, New Khatha No.166, Property No.172/3, situated at Billekahalli Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk measuring East to West 50 Feet and North to South 60 Feet, totally measuring 3000 Sq. Ft., and bounded on: - East by: Site No.131A, West by: Site No.74A, North by: Site No.135, South by: Road

M.G.C. & Co.,
Advocates and Solicitors
No.66, 4th Cross, Xavier Layout,
Behind Vijay Kiran Apartment
Bangalore - 560047
Bangalore Ph. No.25546276
10.07.2023 Mob:9449400145

Text&Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

India's total power consumption in June this year

139.23 in billion units. The power usage grew by 4.4% in June this year compared to last year. The peak power demand met rose to 223.23GW. PTI

The europeans who died in sweltering heat waves last year

61,600 A study found that Greece, Italy, Portugal and Spain saw the highest death rate, according to population size, due to heatwaves. REUTERS

The people missing in three boats from Senegal to Spain

300 Two of the boats had departed from Mbour city on June 23 carrying about 100 people, while the third left Kafountine, Senegal, four days later with approximately 200 people. AP

The number of Wimbledon matches contested by Djokovic

100 As he enters the 100 club, Novak Djokovic tackled Poland's Hubert Hurkacz on Centre Court, where he has not lost in 10 years, and entered his 14th Wimbledon quarter-final. AFP

Net direct tax collection so far this fiscal year

4.75 In lakh crore. The direct tax collection has touched 26.05% of the total budget estimate of ₹18.23 lakh crore for the 2023-24 fiscal. PTI

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

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The Global South: origins and significance

The term "Global South" is not geographical. Rather, its usage denotes a mix of political, geopolitical and economic commonalities between nations

EXPLAINER

Jorge Heine

The unwillingness of many leading countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America to stand with NATO over the war in Ukraine has brought to the fore once again the term "Global South."

"Why does so much of the Global South support Russia?" inquired one recent headline; "Ukraine courts 'Global South' in push to challenge Russia," declared another.

But what is meant by that term, and why has it gained currency in recent years? The Global South refers to various countries around the world that are sometimes described as 'developing', 'less developed' or 'underdeveloped'. Many of these countries – although by no means all – are in the Southern Hemisphere, largely in Africa, Asia and Latin America. In general, they are poorer, have higher levels of income inequality and suffer lower life expectancy and harsher living conditions than countries in the "Global North" – that is, richer nations that are located mostly in North America and Europe, with some additions in Oceania and elsewhere.

ISTOCKPHOTO

Going beyond the 'Third World'

The term Global South appears to have been first used in 1969 by political activist Carl Oglesby. Writing in the liberal Catholic magazine *Commonweal*, Oglesby argued that the war in Vietnam was the culmination of a history of northern "dominance over the global south."

But it was only after the 1991 breakup of the Soviet Union – which marked the end of the so-called "Second World" – that the term gained momentum. Until then, the more common term for developing nations – countries that had yet to industrialise fully – was 'Third World'. That term was coined by Alfred Sauvy in 1952, in an analogy with France's historical three estates: the nobility, the clergy and the bourgeoisie. The term 'First World' referred to the advanced capitalist nations; the 'Second World', to the socialist nations led by the Soviet Union; and the 'Third World', to developing nations, many at the time still under the colonial yoke.

Sociologist Peter Worsley's 1964 book, *The Third World: A Vital New Force in International Affairs*, further popularised the term. The book also made note of the 'Third World' forming the backbone of the non-aligned movement, which had been founded just three years earlier as a riposte to bipolar Cold War alignment.

Though Worsley's view of this 'Third World' was positive, the term became associated with countries plagued by poverty, squalor and instability. 'Third World' became a synonym for banana republics ruled by tinpot dictators – a caricature spread by Western media.

The fall of the Soviet Union – and with it the end of the so-called Second World – gave a convenient pretext for the term 'Third World' to disappear, too. Usage of the term fell rapidly in the 1990s. Meanwhile 'developed', 'developing' and 'underdeveloped' also faced criticism for holding up Western countries as the ideal, while portraying those outside that club as backwards. Increasingly the term that was being used to replace them was the more neutral-sounding "Global South."

Geopolitical, not geographical

The term 'Global South' is not geographical. In fact, the Global South's two largest countries – China and India – lie entirely in the Northern Hemisphere.

Rather, its usage denotes a mix of political, geopolitical and economic commonalities between nations.

Countries in the Global South were mostly at the receiving end of imperialism and colonial rule, with African countries as perhaps the most visible example of this. It gives them a very different outlook on what dependency theorists have described as the relationship between the centre and periphery in the world political economy – or, to put it in simple terms, the relationship between "the West and the rest."

Given the imbalanced past relationship between many of the countries of the Global South and the Global North – both during the age of empire and the Cold War – it is little wonder that today many opt not to be aligned with any one great power. And whereas the terms 'Third World' and 'underdeveloped' convey images of economic powerlessness, that isn't true of the "Global South."

Since the turn of the 21st century, a "shift in wealth," as the World Bank has referred to it, from the North Atlantic to Asia Pacific has upended much of the conventional wisdom on where the world's riches are being generated.

By 2030 it is projected that three of the four largest economies will be from the Global South – with the order being China, India, the U.S. and Indonesia. Already the GDP in terms of purchasing power of the the Global South-dominated BRICS nations – Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa – surpasses that of the Global North's G-7 club. And there are now more billionaires in Beijing than in New York City.

Global South on the march

This economic shift has gone hand in hand with enhanced political visibility. Countries in the Global South are increasingly asserting themselves on the global scene – be it China's brokering of Iran and Saudi Arabia's rapprochement or Brazil's attempt to push a peace plan to end the war in Ukraine. This shift in economic and political power has led experts in geopolitics like Parag Khanna and Kishore Mahbubani to write about the coming of an "Asian Century." Others, like political scientist Oliver Stuenkel, have began talking about a "post-Western world." One thing is for sure: the Global South is flexing political and economic muscles that the 'developing countries' and the 'Third World' never had.

The author is Interim Director of the Frederick S. Pardee Center for the Study of the Longer-Range Future, Boston University. This article was republished from The Conversation.

THE GIST

- The Global South refers to various countries around the world that are sometimes described as 'developing', 'less developed' or 'underdeveloped'.
- Countries in the Global South were mostly at the receiving end of imperialism and colonial rule.
- By 2030 it is projected that three of the four largest economies will be from the Global South — with the order being China, India, the U.S. and Indonesia.

What were the events which led to the riots in France?

How did the fatal shooting of Nahel Merzouk lead to nationwide demonstrations in France?

Rishika Yadav
Sneha Surendran

The story so far:

On June 27, Nahel Merzouk, a 17-year-old unarmed French citizen of Algerian and Moroccan descent, was fatally shot by police after being stopped for a traffic violation in Nanterre, a western suburb of Paris. While initially the police justified the shooting, citing safety concerns, conflicting accounts emerged. A Twitter video shows the officers pointing a gun at the stopped car, which then sped away before crashing. On June 28, a peaceful "White March'' protest took place in Nahel's hometown of Nanterre, but tensions escalated as demonstrations spread to other cities. France witnessed violence across the country despite authorities detaining the police officer on charges of voluntary homicide.

What was the nature of violence?

The violence was primarily attributed to young individuals, including minors and migrants from Black and Arab communities. Over a span of five consecutive nights, France witnessed widespread riots, resulting in over 3,000 arrests nationwide. In response to the riots, mayors of affected cities organised rallies at town halls to condemn the violence, looting, and destruction of infrastructure. According to authorities, the intensity subsided by July 2.

What fuelled the violence?

Despite positive economic indicators, such as a low unemployment rate and increased foreign investment, France remains deeply divided. This incident has brought to the fore the extent of racial polarisation in France. Recent studies have highlighted the disproportionate targeting of individuals perceived as Black or Arab by police during identity checks. France has experienced multiple uprisings in its banlieues (suburbs), primarily during the 1980s and 1990s. These unrests frequently originated from societal challenges such as unemployment, poverty, discrimination, and strained relations between minority communities and law enforcement. Although Nahel's killing prompted a relatively swift response, concerns remain as previous cases have seen minimal convictions. Last year, 13 individuals who failed to comply with traffic stops were fatally shot by the police, most of them Black or Arab. This year again, three have lost their lives. While evidence may not suggest racial motivation in the shooting, it has amplified concerns about racial inequality and police misconduct, leading to widespread protests and calls for justice. Demonstrators argue that the shooting symbolises systemic racism within French law enforcement.

The shooting has also reignited the debate over police's use of deadly force, with left-wing lawmakers calling for the repeal or revision of a 2017 law that made it easier for officers to shoot at moving vehicles. The law was passed after lobbying from police unions following a series of terrorist attacks. Critics argue that the law's ambiguous wording allows for questionable interpretations.

How did the authorities respond?

To quell the violence, the Minister of the Interior of France Gérald Darmanin deployed more than 40,000 law enforcement officers, resulting in injuries to both officers and protesters. Keeping in mind the young age of the rioters, President Emmanuel Macron called on parents to take responsibility and keep their children indoors. He also suggested imposing restrictions on social media usage, leading to increased scrutiny of social media companies accused of exacerbating the unrest.

However, police unions have voiced their support for the arrested officer, claiming he was performing his duty. French police unions have consistently contended that their work has become more perilous due to the government's neglect in tackling underlying social issues, such as the prevalence of illicit drugs and the absence of employment and educational opportunities in disadvantaged regions. A crowdfunding initiative for the accused officer's family, raised nearly 1.6 million euros which was four times more than Nahel's funding.

President Macron faces challenges on multiple fronts, including protests over pension reforms, domestic discontent over inflation, and the ongoing riots. He is attempting to convey a message of appeasement, although its effectiveness remains uncertain. In the banlieues, tensions persist due to a perception that the country's meritocracy is failing.

The authors are Research Assistants at NIAS, Bengaluru

THE GIST

- On June 27, Nahel Merzouk, a 17-year-old unarmed French citizen of Algerian and Moroccan descent, was fatally shot by police after being stopped for a traffic violation in Nanterre, a western suburb of Paris.
- This incident has brought to the fore the extent of racial polarisation in France. Recent studies have highlighted the disproportionate targeting of individuals perceived as Black or Arab by police during identity checks.
- President Macron faces challenges on multiple fronts, including protests over pension reforms, domestic discontent over inflation, and the ongoing riots.

Second moonshot

Chandrayaan-3 speaks to moon's rising importance in scientific, political milieus

At 2.35 p.m. Indian Standard Time on July 14, the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) plans to launch the Chandrayaan-3 mission to the moon onboard a Launch Vehicle Mark 3 from Sriharikota. Chandrayaan-3 is largely a replica of its predecessor, Chandrayaan-2, that was launched in July 2019 in the form of an orbiter and a lander ('Vikram') bearing a rover ('Pragyan'). While the orbiter entered into orbit around the moon, the surface mission failed in September when the lander crashed instead of executing a slow descent. ISRO later identified a problem in the guidance software and unexpected dispersion in the propulsion system during certain phases of the descent. In Chandrayaan-3, the rocket will place the payload in an elliptical orbit around the earth, where a propulsion module will take over and pilot the lander to a circular orbit around the moon. Finally, the lander will detach and begin a series of manoeuvres culminating in a gradual landing (on August 23-24 this year) over the surface. To improve the chances of success at this stage, ISRO has strengthened the lander's legs, lowered its minimum thrust, enhanced the availability of power, and upgraded the landing sequence.

This will be India's second attempt to soft-land a lander and rover on the lunar surface, and demonstrate end-to-end capability in the relevant technologies. Soft-landing on the moon is a complicated exercise and the possibility of failure exists, even if it may be lower – yet there is good reason to focus on the consequences of a complete success. The mission will play out with India's decision to join the Artemis Accords in the backdrop; in this group, if the mission succeeds, the country will be just the second to have soft-landed a rover on the moon. The importance of this feat cannot be overstated: a slew of public and private moon-landing missions is in the works worldwide as the establishment of permanent bases on the natural satellite has emerged as a major geopolitical goal. The Accords define the U.S.-led axis while China and Russia are working on an 'International Lunar Research Station'. The success of Chandrayaan-3 will also make it the surface mission closest to the lunar south pole to date, a region of the moon that has been found to be geologically unique and host to spots in permanent shadow. To study these and other features, the mission has six scientific payloads. A seventh instrument, on the propulsion module, will profile the signs of life on earth to help scientists look for similar signs on planets beyond the solar system. Taken together, Chandrayaan-3 offers opportunities for India to lead the world's response to the moon's growing importance in the scientific and the political milieus.

Alarm bells

Grassroots politics is now a high-stakes game of violence in West Bengal

The extent of violence in the West Bengal panchayat elections, though numbing, was not totally unexpected. In all, 36 people lost their lives in the violence that spread across several districts of the State for almost a month in the run-up to the elections; 18 people died on the day of elections, on July 8. Opposition parties had expressed their apprehension that the elections would be marred by violence if proper steps were not taken. Despite several interventions by the Calcutta High Court, which directed the deployment of central forces at all polling booths, the West Bengal State Election Commission failed on several counts. What proved costly was the State Election Commission's decision to conduct the huge exercise of three-tier rural elections across 61,636 polling booths on a single day, its reluctance to seek central forces, and the subsequent delay in requisitioning forces when directed by the High Court. The central forces arrived late and were deployed in a haphazard manner.

Infighting in the ruling Trinamool Congress has also been a major contributor to the violence. Besides this, in places where the Opposition could put up some resistance, there was bitter fighting between the Trinamool Congress on the one side, and the Congress, the Communist Party of India (Marxist) and the Bharatiya Janata Party on the other. The Trinamool Congress's dominance on the ground, which remained unquestioned for a decade, is now facing resistance in several places. More than half of those killed in the violence during the elections were supporters of the ruling party. In the panchayat polls in 2018, the Trinamool Congress had won about 34% seats without any contest; this time round, it was about 12%. The control of panchayats helps in political dominance at the local level, and controlling the rural economy. Also, the cadres, who provide the muscle, have a direct stake in the outcome. Elections in West Bengal are rarely peaceful and with two lakh candidates in the fray, the local functionaries did not want to concede any ground. While the State Election Commission was found wanting, the political leadership will also have to take a lot of the blame for allowing the elections to local bodies turn into a matter of life and death. There are also some structural reasons that make grassroots politics so competitive and violent in West Bengal. With high unemployment and scarce activity in the formal sector resulting in extreme competition for political posts, in turn leading to extraction and corruption, the State is caught in a debilitating cycle. The violence and the chaos on Saturday should act as a wake-up call for the State's political class.

AI's disruptive economic impact, an India check

Santosh Kumar Dash

is an Assistant Professor at the Institute of Rural Management Anand (IRMA), Anand, Gujarat

Sidharth R.

is a Research Associate at the Centre for Development Studies, Thiruvananthapuram

With Artificial Intelligence (AI) becoming an integral part of the global economy, India should focus on education and training in AI, rather than its regulation

Little did we know that beyond the automated factory machines, self-driving cars, and robocops, Artificial Intelligence (AI) would one day crash into our lives, authoring poems, tipping us with pickup lines, and passing the toughest examinations. The recent rise of Large Language Models and Generative AI has sparked more interest in the progress of AI across the globe. ChatGPT was running with its servers crammed for months, and Twitter feeds were filled with quirky ChatGPT quotes followed by threads shedding light on the versatile application of such chatbots. Ethical debates on the use of generative AI have subsided in the realisation that users will have a 'productivity-powered' upper hand over a non-user. The subjects of worker replacements and economic growth with the rise of AI have entered the spiral that the Internet once went through.

Positive effects of AI adoption

There is broad consensus on increasing productivity by adopting AI in producing goods and services. In a study called "Generative AI at Work" (involving over 5,000 customer support agents in the Philippines), Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) economists showed that AI tools boosted worker productivity by 14% and improved consumer satisfaction, leading to better treatment of customer service agents and increased employee retention. Experts suggest that generative AI may not replace employees, but employees using generative AI will replace those who do not upskill.

A recent survey among employees of LinkedIn's top 50 companies in the United States shows that almost 70% of them found AI helping them to be faster, smarter, and more productive. Another 32% were of the opinion that while AI's current impact may be modest, they anticipate larger gains over the next five years. Professor Erik Brynjolfsson of the MIT suggests that restructuring business processes and increased investments are essential to fully leverage AI's productivity potential.

Research from across the world is also largely optimistic about AI's impacts on growth. A study by PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) predicted an increase in global GDP by 14% or $15.7 trillion by 2030 due to ongoing technological advancements in AI. Further, a report from Goldman Sachs Research in April 2023 said that generative AI alone could raise global GDP by 7% or almost $7 trillion over a 10-year period. The report highlights generative AI's potential to create human-like output and that its ability to break down communication barriers between humans and machines could have large positive macroeconomic effects.

The Forum for the Kent A. Clark Center for Global Markets surveyed and published the views of U.S. and European economic experts on the impact of AI on the per capita income of the U.S. and western Europe. On the question whether AI will result in a substantial increase in the growth rates of real capita income in the U.S. and western Europe over the next two decades, 44% of the U.S. experts agreed to an expected substantial increase, whereas 46% said the effects were uncertain. Among the European experts, 34% expected a substantial increase in GDP per capita, while 42% were uncertain about the effects of AI. Only 2% of experts believed that AI would not significantly impact per capita GDP; this included Professor Nicholas Bloom of Stanford, who pointed out historical data on slowed GDP growth despite technological advancements. On another question of whether a ban on generative AI chatbots could negatively impact national innovation, 62% of the European experts agreed that a ban could hinder innovation, 14% were uncertain, and only 2% disagreed.

Employment may be adversely affected

Experts also point to multiple negative impacts of AI technologies. The first is labour replacement that AI technologies bring to the table. AI can automate repetitive tasks and with generative AI, even creative tasks can be done efficiently and fast. A research paper titled "Robots and Jobs: Evidence from US Labor Markets" by Daron Acemoglu of MIT and Pascual Restrepo of Boston University found that robot adoption has a negative effect on workers, on average – it reduces the labour share, employment and wages. These adverse effects primarily affect blue-collar workers and individuals with lower levels of education.

In "Tasks, Automation, and the Rise in U.S. Wage Inequality", the two authors document that between 50% and 70% of changes in the U.S. wage structure over the last four decades can be attributed to relative wage declines of worker groups specialised in routine tasks in industries experiencing rapid automation. Acemoglu argues that automation reduces labour share and wages, especially when productivity gains from automation are small. His other studies also highlight distributional concerns over automation, causing inequality among workers and possible serious negative impacts on social welfare. A European Parliamentary Research Service report cites McKinsey Global Institute's research that suggests that AI may intensify competition and deepen the technological divide among firms. Early adopters of AI may gain significant advantages, leading to a winner-takes-all scenario.

The Guardian puts forward the idea that AI could be highly disruptive as it is more likely to displace middle-class, white-collared jobs; in comparison, earlier technological advancements displaced people from lower-paid farm jobs to higher-paid factory floor jobs. Analysis by Goldman Sachs has suggested that 15%-35% of work in the U.S. economy is exposed to automation. Still, the finance giant also puts out numbers to show how this may not adversely affect the labour market – "60% of workers today are employed in occupations that didn't exist in 1940, implying that over 85% of employment growth over the last 80 years is explained by the technology-driven creation of new positions" – hinting at the possibility of AI creating more jobs than on how much it displaces. But surely, no inferences can be yet derived on how each upgrade impacts the labour market.

Opportunities for India

India, being the most populous country, should be on the lookout as any net negative effect on employment can adversely impact the economy. Increased efficiency by the adoption of AI in call centres and software industries does not bode well for millions of Indians who work in the field. Regulation on the use of AI is not a bright solution as this would just drive investments and new opportunities away. The PwC report suggests that the greatest economic gains from AI will come from China, with a projected 26% boost to GDP by 2030. Thus, it would be prudent for India to focus more on education and training in AI; this could be a lot easier now with online education having larger acceptance after the COVID-19 pandemic to take advantage of the demographic dividend and new opportunities that emanate from AI.

AI has seeped into every aspect of the global economy, and its effect on productivity and growth is being seen in an optimistic way. Views on the effect of AI on the labour market and its impact on society are gloomy, with 70% of American experts in an IGM survey agreeing that AI could create deep challenges for society, including in the labour market, politics, data privacy, crime and warfare; these challenges are difficult to anticipate and plan for. Governments would have to step up their cyber regulations with respect to the new challenges posed by AI and may also need tax capital, as suggested by many experts, to balance the returns from capital and labour to reduce the displacement and distributional effects. Either way, ever-growing advancements in AI are now a reality and equipping ourselves with the latest tools will help us forge ahead along with everyone else.

And no, an apocalypse where robots take over the human world is nowhere soon.

Women's reproductive autonomy as the new catchword

Andrea M. Wojnar

is Representative United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) India, part of Team UN in India, and Country Director, Bhutan

Families and communities prosper when women have the power to make choices about their bodies and lives

The theme of this year's World Population Day, i.e., 'Unleashing the power of gender equality: Uplifting the voices of women and girls to unlock our world's infinite possibilities', could not be more apt for India. When we unlock the full potential of women and girls, encouraging and nurturing their desires for their families and themselves, we galvanise half the leadership, ideas, innovation, and creativity available to societies. In India, the world's most populous nation, the template for women-led development, be it in science, technology, agriculture, education or health care, must also include reproductive autonomy at its core.

For far too long the world has been obsessed with population numbers and targets. Instead of ensuring reproductive autonomy for each woman, we are obsessed with total fertility rates; instead of ensuring that family planning services reach all those who want it, we are obsessed with what the ideal population size of a family, a community, a country and even the world ought to be. It is important to understand that there are no ideal numbers or figures.

Population stability comes when reproductive and sexual health decisions are free of discrimination, coercion and violence, that reproductive and sexual health services are affordable, acceptable, accessible and of high quality, and that women and couples are supported to have the number of children they want, when they want them.

Much progress

On World Population Day (July 11), India deserves to be commended for its family planning initiatives, where despite the many challenges, the aim is to provide an increasingly comprehensive package of reproductive health services to every potential beneficiary – with a focus on the provision of modern short and long-acting reversible contraceptives, permanent methods, information, counselling, and services, including emergency contraception.

India's commitment towards the Family Planning 2030 partnership includes expanding its contraceptive basket. The inclusion of new contraceptive options advances women's rights and autonomy, leading to a spike in modern contraceptive prevalence. Access to timely, quality and affordable family planning services is crucial because unspaced pregnancies may have a detrimental influence on the new-born's health as well as major effects on maternal mortality, morbidity, and health-care expenditure.

The Indian government's health, population and development programmes have shown steady progress over the years. Life expectancy at birth has significantly increased in the country over the years. Compared to the 1990s, Indians are currently living a decade longer. In terms of maternal health, India has made impressive strides. The current rate of maternal mortality is 97 (per 100,000 live births in a year), down from 254 in 2004. Another triumph of these programmes is gender empowerment. Since the beginning of 2000, India has cut the number of child marriages by half. Teen pregnancies, too, have dramatically decreased. Access to vital services, including health, education, and nutrition, has also improved.

No physical autonomy

However, this progress has a fine print too. Many women continue to lack physical autonomy. According to the most recent National Family Health Survey (NFHS-5), just 10% of women in India are independently able to take decisions about their own health, and 11% of women believe that marital violence is acceptable if a woman refuses to have sex with her husband. Nearly half of all pregnancies in India are unplanned, as they are globally.

Advancing gender equality is not just about women but also about populations as a whole. In ageing societies that worry about labour productivity, achieving gender parity in the workforce is the most effective way to improve output and income growth. And in countries experiencing rapid population growth, women's empowerment through education and family planning can bring enormous benefits by way of human capital and inclusive economic development. More importantly, the focus on gender equality helps shift the focus away from the notion of 'population stabilisation' to 'population dynamics' based on reproductive choices people make.

India has a significant opportunity to advance gender equality and grow its economy. In fact, raising the women's labour force participation by 10 percentage points might account for more than 70% of the potential GDP growth opportunity ($770 billion in additional GDP by 2025).

The investments needed

The path to such a bright future is clear. Focusing on gender equality-centred growth, rights, and choices promises to help all achieve their aspirations. Gender equality can be ensured by making investments in a woman's life at every stage, from childbirth to adolescence to maturity. Engaging with women, girls and other marginalised people and formulating legislation and policies that empower them to assert their rights and take life changing personal decisions are the first steps in this direction.

World Population Day this year is an opportunity to reaffirm our commitment to putting individual rights, particularly women's rights and well-being, at the centre of the population and development discourse. Gender-just approaches and solutions are the fundamental building blocks of a more prosperous India, and indeed the world.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Importance of forests

Forests are not 'fringe elements' or 'extra fittings'. Nor are they lifeless areas. Parks, estates, grazing lands, deemed forests, and forests are core elements in our natural protection against extreme natural events. The loss of green cover under the guise of infrastructure development is a step in the direction of self destruction (Page 1, "Objections overruled, Forest Bill goes to House unchanged" July 10).

P. David Balasingh,
Nagercoil, Tamil Nadu

The yuan and payments

Paul Krugmann wrote in the *NYT* recently that for all the big talk about China's yuan getting big in world trade and threatening the U.S. dollar, the dollar's share in world trade and needs has not dropped substantially in the last 20 years. Along with the currencies of its allies, the dollar literally dominates world trade and reserves. China has appeared on the horizon only recently. The role of the yuan in payments by India, Brazil, Russia and Argentina is just a ripple in world trade.

M. Balakrishnan,
Bengaluru

Office of the Governor

The piece ('From the Archives', July 10, 1973, "Governor's post: T'Nadu plea for abolition"), on the issue of doing away with the office of the Governor, is, ironically, very relevant in today's politics that are marked by acrimony. The government at the Centre has been doing its best to subvert the democratic process by using Governors as a political weapon. There must be checks and balances on the conduct of Governors. It is only then that cooperative federalism will flourish, as envisaged in the Constitution.

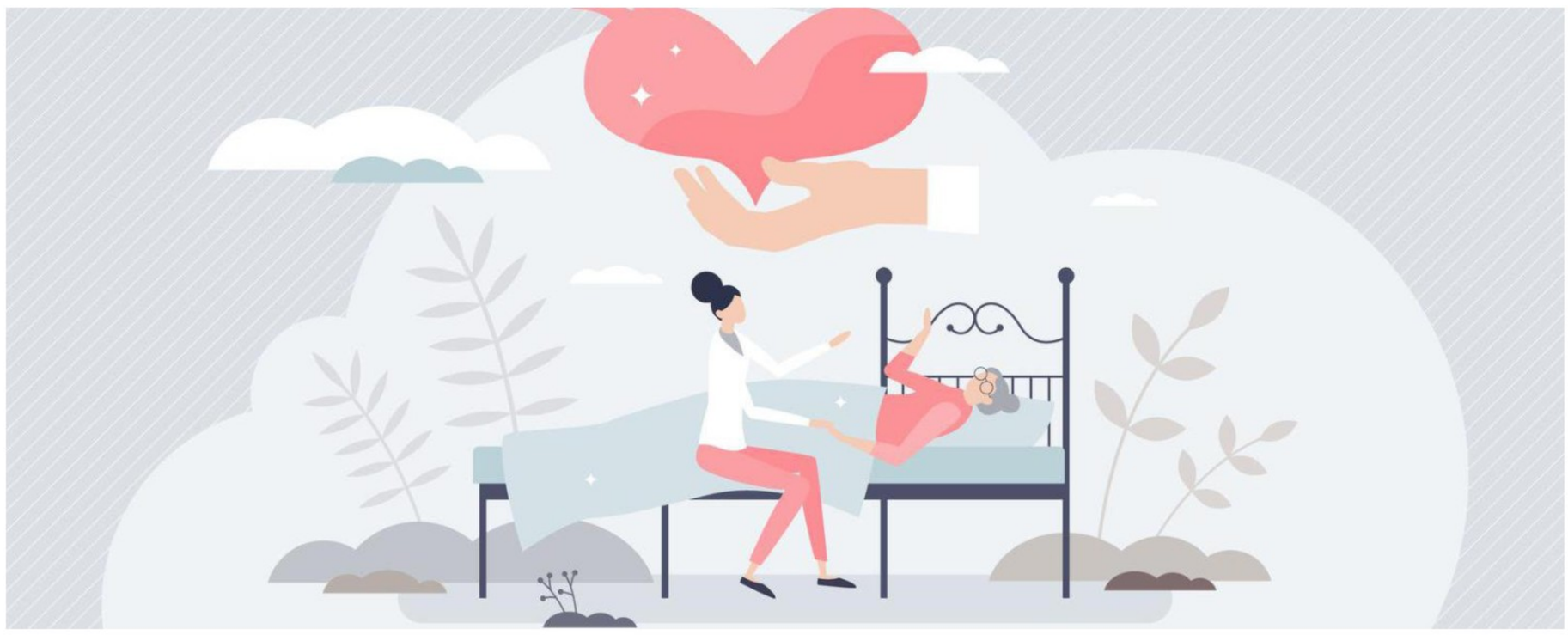
R. Sivakumar,
Chennai

It is ironic that even in 1973, one finds Tamil Nadu had advocated abolition of the Governor's post.
It is unfortunate that Governors seem to be agents of the Centre and not functioning according to constitutional guidelines. It is in the interest of democracy to end this undesirable game of upmanship.

Mohammed Ikramulla,
Hyderabad

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the full postal address.

PULSE-CHECK



ISTOCKPHOTO

The need for strengthening palliative care in the face of non-communicable diseases

The revised operational guidelines of the National Programme for Prevention & Control of Non-Communicable Diseases limit palliative care to only cancer patients, leaving out those with any other chronic and debilitating ailments

Deepak Sudhakaran
Parth Sharma

India is home to nearly 20% of the world's population, two-thirds of which reside in rural areas. Apart from a rising population, India has experienced a steep rise in the burden of lifestyle-related non-communicable diseases. Nearly 1.4 million people are diagnosed with cancer in India every year while diabetes, hypertension, and respiratory diseases are also on the rise. All these diseases need palliative care sooner or later in the disease trajectory.

What is palliative care?

Palliative care is the branch of medicine focusing on improving the quality of life and preventing suffering among those with life-limiting illnesses. It aims to identify patients at risk of over-medicalisation at the expense of quality of life and financial burden on the family. It is often misinterpreted as end-of-life care. However, palliative care aims to improve the quality of life by addressing the physical, psychological, spiritual, and social domains of the health of people suffering from life-limiting diseases like heart failure, kidney failure, certain neurological diseases, cancer, etc.

According to Vandana Mahajan, a palliative care counsellor in Delhi, a palliative care team supports the affected families in a way that focuses on the person as a whole, not just the disease. "Palliative care also includes bereavement support for the caregivers in case of the death of the patient," she said.

How many need palliative care?

Palliative care in India has largely been available at tertiary healthcare facilities in urban areas. Due to skewed availability of services, it is accessible to only 1-2% of the estimated 7-10 million people who require it in the country. According to Aju Mathew, a medical oncologist from Kerala, as many as 7 out of the 10 patients he sees daily need palliative care.

Post-independence India has made considerable efforts to improve the health of its people. A three-tier health system, multiple national health programmes and schemes, and the Ayushman Bharat Health Insurance Scheme are all positive steps taken towards universal health coverage.

However, despite these efforts, 55 million people in India are pushed below the poverty line every year due to health-related expenditures. Over-medicalisation plays a significant role in this financial burden.

Is there a palliative care programme?

The National Programme for Prevention & Control of Cancer, Diabetes, Cardiovascular Diseases & Stroke (NPCDCS), now the National Programme for Prevention & Control of Non-Communicable Diseases (NP-NCD), includes chronic diseases whose treatment contributes the most to health-related expenses. These diseases progress to a stage where, in an ideal scenario, palliative care should take over curative care. Launched in 2010 to counter the rising burden of non-communicable diseases in the country, the programme envisaged the provision of promotive, preventive, and curative care from primary to tertiary institutes, thus providing health services delivery across the continuum of care. The revised operational guidelines of NP-NCD were expected to strengthen the programme. However, it has not succeeded in addressing certain gaps in palliative care in India.

What are the gaps in the guidelines?

As per the Global Atlas of Palliative Care, in 2020, the need for palliative care was higher for non-cancer illnesses. However, the revised NP-NCD operational guidelines, released in May 2023, mention palliative care in synonymy with just cancer. To quote, "Palliative care is provided for relief rather than to cure the symptoms and suffering caused by cancer and to improve the quality of life of patients." This is a step back from the previous operational guideline, in which chronic and debilitating conditions also fell under the ambit of palliative care.

Since most patients who need palliative care are suffering from debilitating diseases, home-based care forms the ideal mode of healthcare delivery. Previously, the programme guidelines mentioned support being provided to facilitate home-based palliative care services. However, palliative care service delivery starts only from the district hospital in the revised guidelines, with no mention of home-based care. "Palliative care must be delivered at least at the health and wellness centre and sub-center level. If people have to come to the district hospital for palliative care, it is a failure of the health system," Ravi Kannan, Padma Shri recipient and director of the Cachar Cancer Hospital and Research Centre, Assam, said.

The guidelines mention the linking of 11 programmes to promote the convergence of services focusing on the care of non-communicable diseases. One of these is the National Programme for Palliative Care (NPPC). NPPC was announced in 2012; however, the lack of a dedicated budget has prevented the implementation of the programme since its inception. Experiences from the field suggest that many medical officers at primary health centres are not aware of the existence of such a programme.

Theoretically, the linkage could improve the provision of palliative care, but the mechanisms of the linkage – that too with a programme that has not yet been fully implemented – is unclear.

Is palliative care accessible?

Despite various government programmes with palliative care provision as one of their objectives, like the National Programme for the Health Care of Elderly, access to palliative care continues to be abysmal. NGOs like Pallium India, Karunashraya, and CanSupport are trying to fill the gap but, according to Dr Mathew, this isn't enough. "NGOs have limitations on how much they can spend and that doesn't compare in any way with how much the government can spend," he said.

Apart from limiting its attention to cancer, the guidelines have also skipped an opportunity to bring focus on children suffering from chronic diseases. An estimated 98% of children facing moderate to severe suffering during their end of life reside in lower and middle-income countries like India. This could be due to diseases like cancer, birth defects, neurological conditions etc. Paediatric palliative care has been a neglected branch, Dr. Kannan said, and needs urgent attention.

How is such access measured?

The guidelines' narrow focus is also evident from the indicator chosen to assess the programme's impact. Access to palliative care will be assessed by estimating morphine-equivalent consumption of strong opioid analgesics (excluding methadone) per death from cancer. While including an indicator to assess morphine access is a welcome move, an indicator focusing only on patients with cancer might lead to an inaccurate assessment of coverage of services. The World Health Organization recommends the use of morphine consumption per capita to assess morphine access for palliative care services. Using this indicator would also have allowed us to compare the progress of palliative care services in India with other countries.

The 67th World Health Assembly in 2014 called for palliative care to be integrated into health systems at all levels. Despite needs at the grassroot level and international calls for including palliative care along with curative treatment, the realities on the ground are a far cry from what is desirable. It is high time we realised the ongoing pandemic of non-communicable diseases in India and strengthened our palliative care services.

Dr. Parth Sharma is a public health physician and founder of Nivarana (a public health information and advocacy platform). Dr. Deepak Sudhakaran is head of the Research and Innovation Department at Pallium India. The authors have no conflict of interest to declare.

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

A quiz on the occasion of World Population Day observed annually on July 11

V. V. Ramanan

QUESTION 1
Why was July 11 chosen as World Population Day?

QUESTION 2
There are five Asian nations in the list of the top ten most populated countries in the world. Three are India, China, and Pakistan. Name the other two.

QUESTION 3
To which Bharat Ratna is this insightful quote attributed "Almost half of the population of the world lives in rural regions and mostly in a state of poverty. Such inequalities in human development have been one of the primary reasons for unrest and, in some parts of the world, even violence."

QUESTION 4
According to the National Family Health Survey 5, which was the only Indian State to have a sex ratio at birth above 1,000 (more females born than males) with 1028?

QUESTION 5
What milestone in human development was reached on November 15, 2022?

QUESTION 6
According to the United Nations, two of the three major factors influencing population growth are increasing longevity and fertility rates. What is the third?

QUESTION 7
According to the UNFPA, the global life expectancy declined from 73 years in 2019 to 71 in 2021 due to mainly the impact of what global issue?

Visual question:
Identify the lady and in what way did her birth in 1978 contribute to the change in world population numbers.

Questions and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. This was the world's first mission to the Moon, which blew up 16 km above the earth in 1958. **Ans: Pioneer 0**
2. This part of the Moon was first transmitted by Luna 3. **Ans: Far side**
3. This research body's work was considered a disgrace due to the failure of the Ranger 6 space probe. **Ans: Jet Propulsion Laboratory**
4. The third country to reach the Moon's surface. **Ans: Japan**
5. The Chandrayaan-1 mission in 2008 slammed into this crater on the Moon, kicking up debris. **Ans: Shackleton Crater**
Visual: The trajectory of this lunar lander mission is depicted on the International Physics Olympiad medal of 2019. **Ans: Beresheet**
Early Birds: K. N. Viswanathan| Shubham V. Bhosale| Shreya Bhadra| Sarvesha Das

KNOW YOUR ENGLISH

He perused the files over and over again

I chanced upon a great book when I was casually perusing the book stalls near my office

Kevin Mutta

"Did you hear about what happened to the new employee? It's quite hilarious, although I do feel a little sorry for them."

"'Them'? I thought the company recruited only one person this time?"

"Well, 'them' as a pronoun is not used in the plural alone. I haven't met the new recruit yet and wouldn't want to assume their gender, and singular 'they' has been in usage for a long time now, as the indefinite or gender-neutral option."

"So, would the verb accompanying also have to be in the singular? 'They is coming?' That just sounds wrong!"

"Because it is wrong. The sentence would still be 'they are coming', the same way we use singular 'you' and say 'you are coming'. Anyway, their highschool sweetheart and they are a newly-married couple in the habit of exchanging salaciously-written emails during work. Risky business, I tell you."

"'Salaciously written'? The word sounds suspiciously similar to 'salad' but if I were to hazard a guess, I'd say the email's contents were indecent?"

"Obscene, indecent, crude, inappropriately sexual, whatever you want to call it. Disaster struck when one of these emails was wrongly addressed – you would never guess whom to!"

"Who was it addressed to?"

"'Whom', not who, since it is the object of the sentence. "Whom was it addressed to?" works, but "to whom was it addressed?" would be perfect, since you would want to keep the preposition and the indirect object together."

"Really? That's the first I hear of that. To whom was the email addressed?"

"It turns out that while sending the email in question, they accidentally broadcast it to the entire company. I do sympathise, because I remember what it was like to be young and in love. That's how it usually is with these green ones – I remember my first days here, the errors I've made..."

"Green ones? What do you mean?"

"In this case, 'green' would mean 'inexperienced' or 'naive'. The meaning comes from its associations with newness, growth, nature, spring, and so on."

"Oh, I see. What happened next?"

"From what I overheard while eavesdropping on HR yesterday, I believe the boss sanctioned them quite heavily. A few classes in 'appropriate conduct at the workplace' must be on the horizon."

"Sanction? Like give permission? That does not sound too likely."

"'Sanction' in this case would mean 'to impose a penalty on'. I can see where the confusion arises, since 'sanction' is an auto-antonym. Since it has two opposite meanings, it functions as its own antonym. Another example is 'peruse', which means 'to examine carefully or at length', but also 'to look over in a casual or cursory manner'."

"I better get to perusing the documents that have been piling up then."

Kevin Mutta is an intern with The Hindu.

Word of the day

Lucent:
softly bright or radiant

Synonyms: aglow, luminous

Usage: *The lucent moon complimented the lantern festival.*

Pronunciation: bit.ly/lucentpro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /'l(j)u:sənt/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

Don't waste the wastewater

John Snow, a physician in London, found himself in the middle of a devastating cholera outbreak in 1854. In a painstaking investigation in the densely populated Soho district, he traced the source of the epidemic to a contaminated water pump on Broad Street, before knowledge of the causative organism. The epidemic subsided when the pump handle was subsequently removed. Snow's work underscores the potential of disease prevention and control. It also leads us to a tantalising question: What could he have achieved with the tools of today? Could he have sounded the alarm at the earliest stages that an outbreak was imminent?

Brian Wahl

is an epidemiologist and faculty member at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

A public health tool revisited

This hypothetical scenario is now a tangible reality. A recently published study in *The Lancet Global Health* reiterated the promise of using wastewater for public health surveillance. This strategy, originally proposed more than 80 years ago to monitor the spread of poliovirus within communities, played a role in confirming India's victory over poliovirus. It gained fresh relevance during the COVID-19 pandemic, when it was identified as an approach for tracking the spread of SARS-CoV-2.

Wastewater surveillance for known or new health threats offers many benefits for enhancing public health efforts. It is a cost-effective approach that does not rely on invasive samples from individuals with clinical symptoms. While our public health surveillance system has improved in recent years, it still faces many implementation challenges. For instance, according to a recent report by Niti Aayog, the system grapples with issues like uneven coverage and siloed disease-specific efforts. Incorporating wastewater surveillance will not fix these issues, but it could help reduce the reliance on any one source of data. In practical terms, wastewater surveillance in India could involve systematic sampling and analysis of samples from varied sources such as wastewater ponds in rural areas and centralised sewage systems in urban localities. These samples would undergo testing at designated laboratories to identify markers of disease-causing agents, such as genetic fragments of bacteria or viruses. These data could be compiled together with other source of health data to provide real-time insights into community-level disease patterns, sometimes earlier than clinical data.

The integration of wastewater surveillance with existing surveillance mechanisms could help amplify India's epidemiological capabilities. For instance, efforts to strengthen public health laboratory networks could incorporate the testing of wastewater samples into surveillance reporting. This could strengthen the capacity to detect diseases at an early stage, including in areas where access to healthcare facilities and diagnostic testing might be limited.

Additionally, the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission, which aims to create a seamless online platform for healthcare services, offers an opportunity for the integration of wastewater surveillance. This would allow for real-time tracking of disease spread and facilitate more effective, targeted public health responses. Successful integration will rely on public health professionals trained not only in traditional epidemiological methods, but also in the management and interpretation of data derived from wastewater surveillance.

The promise of wastewater surveillance hinges on data sharing. This is not just a domestic issue, but also an international consideration. It is crucial to cultivate an environment of accessibility and cooperative strategies among appropriate agencies, within and beyond borders. Internally, providing access to wastewater surveillance data to health departments at all levels of government can amplify our capabilities for disease monitoring and response. Sharing wastewater surveillance data with global health agencies could foster collaborative efforts in disease tracking and mitigation. This can be a key element in building a robust global health infrastructure capable of rapidly responding to public health threats.

Political backing and funding

It is encouraging that India has already championed public health surveillance and mobilised resources accordingly. Current discussions have noted the importance of innovation and implementation. The integration of wastewater surveillance is fully aligned with Niti Aayog's current vision. Other innovative forms of disease surveillance include social media surveillance and occupational health surveillance.

India's leadership at international platforms like the G20 could serve as an opportunity to elevate the significance of innovative approaches to disease surveillance. With the world's attention focused on global health security in the wake of recent pandemics, these forums provide an opportunity to advocate for enhanced public health surveillance that integrates wastewater sampling as an essential component of health infrastructure. By actively pushing this agenda, India could not only call for international commitments and support, but also position itself as a leader and coordinator in this field. Through strategic collaborations and proactive leadership, India can lead the way in integrated public health surveillance, offering a model that is alert, predictive, responsive, and robust. With a dedicated public health and management cadre driving implementation, India can help realise this vision.

Wastewater surveillance for known or new health threats offers many benefits for enhancing public health efforts

In Opposition without a leader

The poll debacle in Karnataka has deepened the divide in the State BJP

STATE OF PLAY

B.S. Sathish Kumar
satishkumar.bs@thehindu.co.in

The old saying that victory has a hundred fathers, but defeat is an orphan holds good for the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)'s Karnataka unit. The party's poor performance in the Assembly elections has deepened the internal divide. More than two months since the poll results were announced, the BJP is yet to choose the Leader of the Opposition.

The fundamental problems of the BJP's Karnataka unit are lack of cohesion and groupism. Until the elections, the powerful central leadership had ensured that these issues were not out in the open. But the results shattered the image of the BJP central leadership as being "invincible". When several leaders, including MLAs and MPs, publicly began blaming one another for the party's defeat, the problem of groupism was exposed.

Embarrassed by this, the party leadership finally identified 11 leaders who were indulging in mud-slinging and entrusted party veteran B.S. Yediyurappa with the task of making them fall in line. The public smears have been contained to an extent now. However, the fact that camp feud in the party are worsening is visible in the BJP's inordinate delay in choosing the legislature party leader, who will go on to become the Leader of the Opposition. The Budget session of the State Legislature has been held for six days so far, without a Leader of the Opposition. Meanwhile, the Congress, which has formed the government, has seized the opportunity to comment

on the sorry state of affairs in the rival party.

The BJP high command deputed two central observers to elicit the views of senior leaders, MLAs and MPs on the choice of candidates for the post of the Leader of the Opposition. But though this process was completed about a week ago, the name of the leader for the post is yet to be announced.

It is not just this crucial post that is lying vacant. The term of the incumbent BJP Karnataka president, Nalin Kumar Kateel, ended in August 2022, but the party decided to keep him in the post since the Assembly elections were nearing. Months after the polls, a new president is yet to be appointed A few days ago, the party central leadership announced new party chiefs in four States, including poll-bound Telangana, but made no mention of Karnataka.

Caste considerations

Party leaders attribute the delay in appointments to both these posts to caste and community calculations. The BJP is reportedly trying to accommodate the two dominant communities of the State – Lingayats and Vokkaligas. Caste permutations apart, the party central leadership is also believed to be caught between the immediate need of taking along all the leaders ahead of the 2024 Lok Sabha elections and the need of building a strong leadership and organisation for the future.

Though the party central leadership hinted at building new leadership when it replaced the ageing and politically influential B.S. Yediyurappa with Basavaraj Bommai as Chief Minister two years ago, it still had to depend heavily on Mr. Yediyurappa for its poll campaign in Lingayat-dominant areas. It had to face the wrath of the Lingayats for this decision. Though Mr. Bommai is also from the same community, the Lingayats saw the change as an insult to Mr. Yediyurappa, who wields enormous power and enjoys substantial influence in the community.

The party's keenness to build new leadership in its long-term interests could also be hindered for the time being by the Lok Sabha elections. It seems doubtful that the BJP would take up such an experiment with respect to both these posts less than a year before the polls. Already, one of its experiments during the Assembly elections backfired – the BJP went to the polls without a strong State leader hoping that it could bank on the central leadership. But the results showed that a strong regional face is important to reach out to the people and earn their trust.

Whatever may be the political reasons, the delay in the appointment of the Leader of the Opposition has left the party State unit red-faced. It has affected the BJP's morale, which has already been low due to the poll debacle. There is also concern among party State leaders and cadres that the delay in these appointments may come in the way of the BJP's preparation for the Lok Sabha polls and in its efforts towards resurgence.

Record rainfall: Chandigarh, Kullu see wettest days in history

In July this year, 10 tributaries in Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand surpassed their highest-ever flood levels

DATA POINT

Anushka Kataruka, Hashika Sharma & Vignesh Radhakrishnan

Over the last few days, torrential rainfall has wreaked havoc in north India, particularly in parts of Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Delhi, and Chandigarh. It has triggered landslides and flash floods, leaving hundreds of people stranded. As of Monday, at least 22 related deaths were reported.

Map 1 shows the amount of rainfall recorded in the 24-hour period ending at 8.30 a.m. on July 9, 2023. North India, where rainfall exceeded 200 mm, stands out. On the other hand, except some parts of Gujarat and central India, the rest of the country received scant rainfall. While the map only depicts the rainfall for the latest day available, this trend holds true for most days of July.

Chart 2 shows the cumulative deviation from the usual rainfall recorded, on all days of July 2023, across meteorological subdivisions. The graph shows, on any given day, the percentage change (increase/decrease) from the Long Period Average rainfall recorded cumulatively this monsoon. Each line corresponds to one of the 36 meteorological subdivisions. The subdivisions in north India, especially the areas in and around the places highlighted in Map 1, are given a distinct colour. India's overall deviation is also highlighted.

As the chart shows, nearly all the meteorological subdivisions which recorded high increases from normal rainfall were in the north. Punjab led the list with an increase of over 200% from normal rainfall on all the days of July this year. In Himachal Pradesh, the increase from normal ranged from 85% to 110% on all the days of July. The increase from normal rainfall in Uttarakhand and Haryana surpassed even Himachal Pradesh's deviation in the past four days, peaking at 115% and 113%, respectively, on July 10. Western Uttar Pradesh has also recorded a sudden increase in rainfall in the past few days – an 84% increase from normal on July 10. The grey lines, which show the deviation of non-northern subdivisions, are closer to or even lower than the zero-line, showing that rainfall was either on expected lines or was deficit in these regions. The only exception was western Madhya Pradesh, which also recorded rainfall that was much higher than usual.

Notably, the deviation from normal rainfall for India on the whole, which had remained below zero on all days since the start of the monsoon this year, entered positive territory on July 9 for the first time. But it is important to note that many parts other than north India are still experiencing a monsoon deficit.

Chart 3 shows the actual rainfall recorded on a July day in millimetres across select north Indian cities. Each grey circle corresponds to a July day between 1952 and 2022. The highlighted crosses correspond to a July day in 2023. On July 9, Chandigarh recorded a 24-hour rainfall of 283 mm. The second highest level of rainfall of 144 mm was recorded in Chandigarh on July 6, 1988. In fact, 283 mm is the highest-ever 24-hour rainfall for the city for any day since 1952. Kullu in Himachal Pradesh also recorded its wettest July day, and second-wettest day ever. With 51.8 mm rainfall on July 9, Delhi recorded its wettest July day since 2006.

In the last few days, at least 10 stations measuring the water level in rivers/tributaries spread across Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand recorded the highest flood level recorded in history. Rivers/tributaries in Giri, Bata, Meenus, Tons, Satluj and Ropa Khad in Himachal Pradesh, and Bhagirathi-I, Fica, Mandakini and Pinder in Uttarakhand either touched or surpassed their highest flood levels in the last few days.

Wettest July

The charts are based on data collated from the India Meteorological Department, the IMD's Yearly Gridded Rainfall data, and the Centre For Monitoring Indian Economy

Map 1 | The map shows the amount of rainfall recorded in the 24-hour period ending at 8.30 a.m. on July 9, 2023

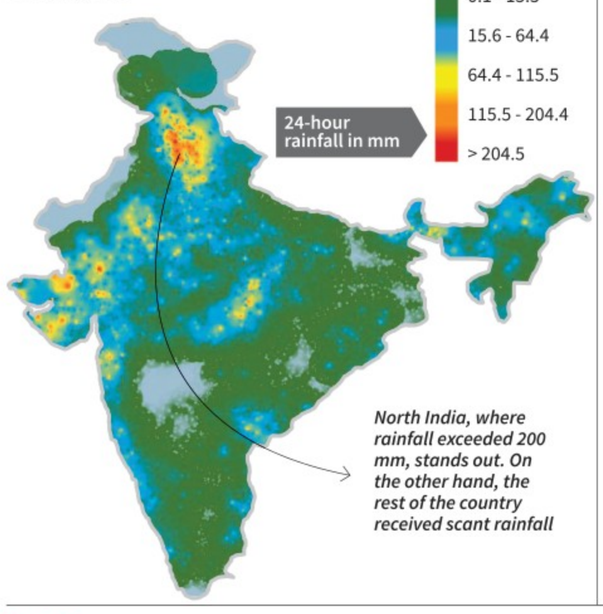


Chart 2 | The chart shows the cumulative deviation in % from the usual rainfall recorded, on all days of July 2023, across meteorological subdivisions

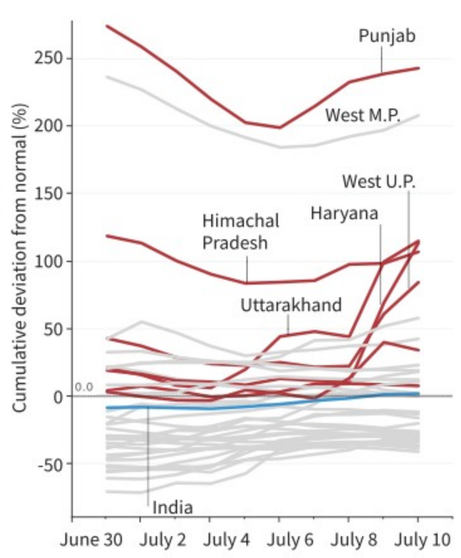
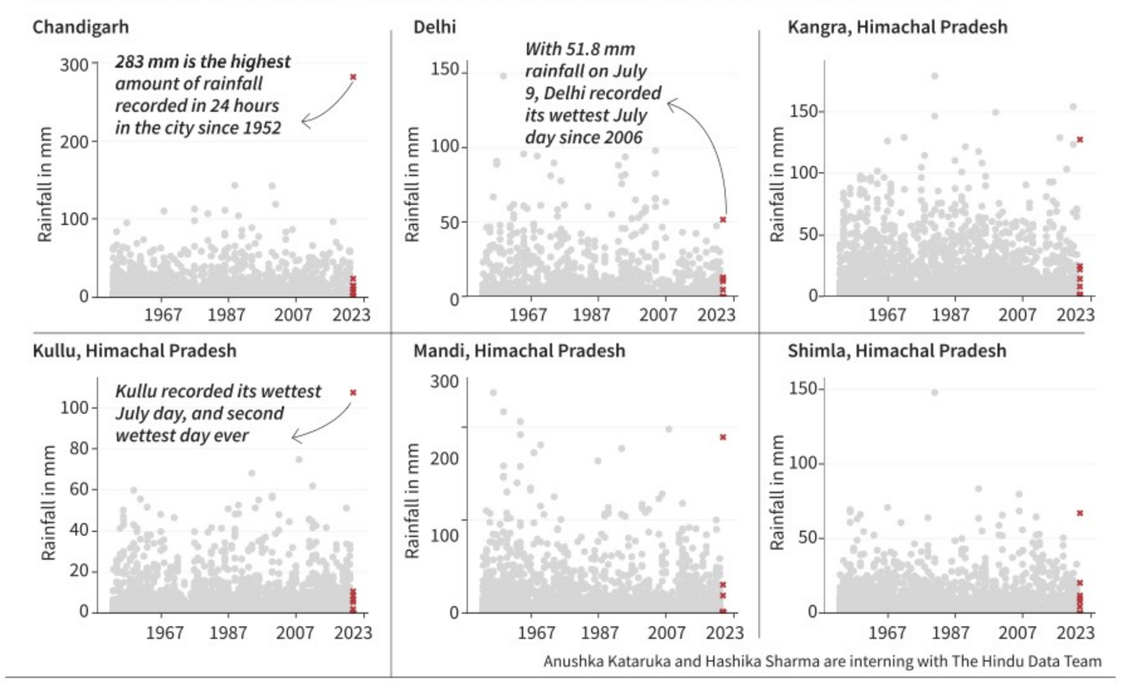


Chart 3 | The actual rainfall recorded on a July day in millimetres across select north Indian cities. X : 2023 | ● : 1952 - 2022



Anushka Kataruka and Hashika Sharma are interning with The Hindu Data Team

FROM THE ARCHIVES

The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO JULY 11, 1973

Pak. Assembly authorises Bhutto to recognise Bangla

Islamabad, July 10: President Bhutto told the Pakistan National Assembly last night that he would never recognise Bangladesh "until and unless there is an equitable settlement and until and unless we have driven the Indians out of Bangladesh." After an acrimonious debate, the Assembly approved by a voice vote the resolution authorising Mr. Bhutto to recognise Bangladesh at a time he judges it to be in "Pakistan's best national interest." Mr. Bhutto had, earlier, said that the resolution was not a final decision and that when the moment came "the final step would be subject to the people's approval." The vote was not taken until 01-30 local this morning after 28 Opposition members had left the Assembly charging that the Government was bent on bulldozing through the resolution. The Opposition parties boycotted the President's address saying they were not prepared to give Mr. Bhutto a vote of confidence, BBC said. The National Awami Party Leader, Mr. Khan Abdul Wali Khan, criticised Mr. Bhutto's attitude towards the Opposition and charged him with flouting all democratic norms. Several hundred troops in full battle dress guarded the Assembly building as the House debated the resolution. As Mr. Bhutto was addressing the House, about 50 women – mostly wives, mothers and sisters of Pakistani POWs in India – demonstrated outside the entrance gates of the Assembly chanting "to hell with politics: bring back the prisoners of war." The resolution was supported by the ruling Pakistan People's Party and its allies, but the Opposition walked out arguing that the Government did not want a real debate on all aspects of the problem.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO JULY 11, 1923

France and disarmament

Paris, July 9: The annexes to the Pacific Treaty were also passed by the Chamber. In the course of the debate reporter Raynaldy emphasised that the treaty did not apply to parties with continental possessions in the Pacific, but said that the France-Japanese Treaty of July 1907 constituting a guarantee of inestimable value was still in force and applicable to all French continental possessions. Raynaldy enumerating the advantages of the treaty said that for the United States it meant the disappearance of the Anglo-Japanese Treaty and the avoidance of causes of conflict in the Pacific.

From Page One

Rain continues to batter North India, toll up to 25

In Haryana, Yamuna and Ghaggar are flowing close to the danger mark. Flood-like conditions and water logging have been reported following continuous rain in several places in Punjab, including Sahibzada Ajit Singh Nagar (Mohali), Anandpur Sahib, Pathankot, Roopnagar, Nawanshahr and Fathegarh Sahib districts. Several roads, railway tracks, and farmland have been inundated following rains.

As Punjab and Haryana sought help from the Army, the flood relief columns of Western Command were mobilised to assist the civil administration in rescue and evacuation efforts in flood-affected areas. Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar convened a meeting of senior officials to review the situation. Authorities had ordered the closure of schools in some affected areas.

The meteorological department issued a red alert for "extremely heavy" rain in Himachal on Monday. Officials said rail operations on the Shimla-Kalka route have been suspended till Tuesday as landslips blocked the track at several places. Educational institutions were ordered to remain shut on Monday and Tuesday. The State has so far witnessed a loss of 72 human lives owing to rain-related incidents.

Streets across the northern States, including Punjab, Delhi and Uttarakhand, were flooded. In some areas, rescue personnel used rubber rafts to rescue people stranded inside their homes, local media said. "Please stay inside your homes because more heavy rain is expected in the next 24 hours," Mr. Sukhu said on social media.
(With inputs from agencies)

Repolling peaceful, HC orders FIRs into deaths

Mr. Chowdhury, who appeared in person before the court, said the repolling in 696 booths as directed by the Election Commission was "like a drop in the ocean".

The High Court also sought a report into the violence on July 8 from the Inspector-General, Border Security Force, who was appointed Nodal Officer for the deployment of Central forces. "The Inspector-General, BSF, Nodal Officer, who has been appointed for deployment of Central forces, shall file a report before this court as regards the violence, which took place in various booths during the election on July 8, 2023.," it ordered.

Vote counting will be held on Tuesday.

About 36 persons lost their lives, including 18 on the day of poll, and hundreds were injured in the violence during the recently concluded panchayat elections.

Foxconn pulls out of Vedanta's chip venture

Minister of State for Electronics and Information Technology Rajeev Chandrasekhar said on Twitter that Foxconn exiting the venture would not impact India's semiconductor ambitions. "It's not for the government to get into why or how two private companies choose to partner or choose not to, but in simple terms ... both companies can and will now pursue their strategies in India independently, and with appropriate technology partners in Semiconductors and Electronics," he said. The companies had submitted an application under the modified production-linked incentive scheme, which would have covered 50% of the project's cost.

Last month, the government announced that a $2.7 billion semiconductor assembly, packaging and testing plant would be built in India by the US-headquartered firm Micron. Applications from other semiconductor proposals under the production-linked incentive scheme remain under review.
(With inputs from Reuters)

SC seeks data on action taken against lynchings

The judgment had made it clearly the duty of the Central and State governments to take steps to curb and stop the dissemination of explosive messages, videos, etc., which have a "tendency to incite mob violence and lynching of any kind". The court had directed that the police were duty-bound to register FIRs, arrest the accused, carry out effective investigation and file charge sheets in complaints of mob violence and lynchings.

"There have been at least 10 such instances in the last one year... Please direct the Centre and the State's to file status reports," advocate Shoeb Alam, for the petitioners who include activist Tushar Gandhi, urged the court.

The court directed the State governments to file status reports detailing the steps taken by them to comply with the directions in the 2018 judgment.

The 45-page judgment, in 2018, had wondered whether the "populace of a great Republic like ours has lost the values of tolerance to sustain a diverse culture?"

Describing lynchings and mob violence as "creeping threats", the court warned that the rising wave of frenzied mobs – fed by fake news, self-professed morality and false stories – would consume the country like a "typhoon-like monster".

SC asks Manipur about status of stolen police weapons

The Bench asks petitioners and those intervening in case to go through State's status report and file short notes with their suggestions on improvements; it lists the case again for today

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Monday questioned the Manipur government, while referring to media reports, about the looting of a "large number of weapons" from police stations.

"Have they been recovered," Chief Justice D.Y. Chandrachud asked Solicitor-General Tushar Mehta, appearing for the Manipur government.

The court, however, remained firm that its intervention would only extend to the humanitarian issues involved.

"We do not want these proceedings to be a platform for further escalation of violence... We are not running the security apparatus or the governance in the State... Then what is the elected government for? Let us not do it in a partisan manner here," Chief Justice Chandrachud told the lawyers where the court intends to draw the line.

A child sits near Churachandpur's 'Wall of Remembrance' set up to honour the lives lost during the conflict. PTI

Mr. Mehta insisted that the "situation is slowly returning to normalcy with the efforts of the State and Central governments". He urged the petitioners not to fan any flame in the court which may have repercussions on the ground.

Senior advocate Colin Gonsalves, for petitioner Manipur Tribal Forum Delhi, said he was sceptical about the State's version. The body count from the violence had been 10 at the time the petitioners moved the apex court in May, it was 110 now, he pointed out.

"Your scepticism cannot lead us to take over the governance of a State," the Chief Justice chided him.

"I urge Your Lordships to allow me to make my submissions calmly," Mr. Gonsalves pleaded.

The hearing saw the Manipur government file its latest status report detailing the situation on the ground.

The Bench asked the petitioners and intervenors in the case to go through the report and file short notes with their suggestions on improvements by evening. The court listed the case again on July 11.

Appeal against order

The State government has, meanwhile, filed an appeal against a Manipur High Court order to lift the present ban on Internet Lease Line (ILL) connections in the State, provided the stakeholders follow safeguards.

The court had further asked the government to consider restoring Fiber To The Home (FTTH) connections on a case-to-case basis.

The State said the order may be premature as the situation on the ground in Manipur was still fluid.

"The situation keeps changing," Mr. Mehta explained. The court agreed to take up the petition on July 11.

'142 people killed, 17 missing in Manipur violence as of July 4'

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Manipur government on Monday informed the Supreme Court that 142 people were killed and 17 were missing as of July 4 in the violence that has ravaged the State since early May.

The State government's 16-page report said 5,995 First Information Reports (FIRs) had been registered as of July 4 and six "important FIRs" had been transferred to the CBI for investigation "independently and with transparency".

It said a three-member Commission of Inquiry under former Gujarat High Court Chief Justice Ajay Lamba had been constituted to investigate the incidents of violence.

The State said that 5,053 incidents of arson had been reported as of July 3.

The report said that 181 persons were arrested and 6,745 were under detention. Illegal bunkers constructed by "miscreants" were being dismantled by the security forces, the State noted.

It said 54,488 people were still living in 354 relief camps. The Centre, the Manipur government said, had provided financial assistance to the tune of ₹101 crore for the management of relief camps.

Essential items

The report noted that the Centre had allotted 30,000 tonnes of rice for sale at ₹32 a kg and 30 trucks of onions and potatoes for Manipur. Over 7,150 trucks and oil tankers had carried essential materials from Jirbam into the State.

The Manipur government noted that an ex gratia scheme of ₹10 lakh had been announced for the families of those who died in the violence and ₹2 lakh each for the injured victims and for families whose houses were burnt down.

Schools for classes 1 to 7 had been reopened from July 5. Exams such as NEET (UG) and CUET(PG) and semester tests of Manipur University had been conducted.

There had been a "conditional relaxation" of the suspension of the Internet in the State by allowing Internet Leased Lines on a case-to-case basis.

Centre instructs Manipur, Mizoram to record biometrics of 'illegal migrants' by September

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

Days before ethnic violence erupted in Manipur, the Union Home Secretary Ajay Kumar Bhalla had asked the State governments of Manipur and Mizoram to capture the "biographic and biometric details of illegal migrants". The biometric information will include retina, iris and fingerprint scans.

The Ministry, in a June 22 letter, reminded the States to complete the exercise by September 30.

On April 28, Mr. Bhalla chaired a meeting on collating information pertaining to illegal migrants in the two States, which share a border with Myanmar.

Ethnic violence between the Meitei and Kuki communities erupted in Manipur on May 3, leading to the killing of more than 140 people and internal displacement of over 54,000 people.

After a military coup in Myanmar in February 2021, over 40,000 refugees from the neighbouring country have taken shelter in Mizoram and around 4,000 refugees are said to have entered Manipur. The refugees belonging to the Kuki-Chin-Zo ethnic group comprising the Lai, Tidim-Zomi, Lusei and Hualngo tribes are closely related to the communities in Mizoram and Manipur. India and Myanmar share a 1,643-km border and people on either side have familial ties. The Mizoram government arranged relief camps for the refugees.

"In this context, it is further mentioned that a campaign for capturing of biometric data of the illegal migrants in the States of Manipur and Mizoram is to be completed by the end of September 2023. The State governments of Manipur and Mizoram are requested to quickly prepare the plan and initiate the biometric capture of the illegal migrants," according to the letter sent to the Manipur government.

Sharing the letter on Twitter, BJP Minister from Imphal West suggests this is a step towards NRC

Rajkumar Imo Singh, BJP legislator from Sagolband in Imphal West, shared the Home Ministry's letter on Twitter on Monday. He said that the Manipur government had already started the campaign earlier this year, due to which nearly 2,500 "illegal migrants" were identified. "All districts have to arrange this up to the police station level as per the standardised format of NCRB (National Crime Records Bureau). Looks like this is a step towards NRC (National Register of Citizens)," Mr. Singh, three-time legislator and son-in-law of Manipur Chief Minister N. Biren Singh, posted on Twitter.

Matter of compliance

The Ministry's letter said that it had earlier issued detailed instructions and guidelines on overstay and illegal migration of foreign nationals. The guidelines issued on March 30, 2021 were circulated again to all State governments on October 21, 2022 for compliance.

The 2021 letter to the Chief Secretaries of Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh asked them to "take appropriate action as per law to check illegal influx from Myanmar into India", adding that State governments have no powers to grant "refugee" status to "any foreigner", and India is not a signatory to the United Nations Refugee Convention of 1951 and its 1967 Protocol.

The Governments of Manipur and Mizoram have appointed Nodal Officers to feed the data in the centralised portal on illegal foreigners maintained by the Bureau of Immigration and the Home Ministry.

J&K Police detain JKLF, Hurriyat separatists

The Hindu Bureau
SRINAGAR

Scores of separatist leaders and their supporters were detained in Srinagar on Sunday in a police raid, which was aimed at "disallowing revival of the separatist Hurriyat and the J&K Liberation Front (JKLF)".

A J&K Police spokesman said they carried out a search on the basis of credible information about the meeting of some "ex-terrorists" of the JKLF and "erstwhile separatists" in a hotel in Srinagar.

The meeting was held at a hotel in the city centre. Sources said over 30 separatist leaders, including the late Hurriyat chairman's son Masroor Ansari, and their supporters had assembled for a meeting.

Fact-finding team in Manipur charged with conspiracy

Abhinay Lakshman
NEW DELHI

For concluding that the ethnic conflict under way in Manipur was "state-sponsored violence", the Manipur police have booked a three-member fact-finding team of the National Federation of Indian Women (NFIW) under penal provisions for conspiracy to wage war against the Government of India, assaulting President/Governor with the intent of compelling them to exercise a power, making statements prejudicial to national integration, defamation and promoting enmity among two groups.

This comes even as the People's Union for Civil Liberties (PUCL) and the All India Democratic Women's Association (AIDWA) on Monday condemned the registration of the FIR and asked the State government to "stop criminalising human rights work".

The FIR was registered at the Imphal police station in Imphal West district on July 8, based on a complaint received from 53-year-old resident S. Liben Singh. The case has been registered against CPI leader Annie Raja (also General Secretary of the NFIW), NFIW National Secretary Nisha Sidhu, and independent Delhi-based lawyer Deeksha Dwivedi.

By concluding that the ethnic conflict in Manipur was "State-sponsored without any conclusive evidence", the accused were allegedly "conspiring to overthrow a democratically elected government by instigating people to wage war against the government", Mr. Singh alleged in the complaint.

He claimed that Ms. Raja, Ms. Sidhu, and Ms. Dwivedi had "abused" the Meira Paibis (women torch-bearers), by calling their refusal to accept Chief Minister N. Biren Singh's resignation a "stage-managed drama".

Willing to tweak OMSS, govt. says after poor response

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

As the Congress attacked the Centre on Monday over the reluctance of private players to auction rice from the Food Corporation of India (FCI) under the Open Market Sales Scheme, the Union Food Ministry indicated that it is willing to make changes to the scheme. The Centre had recently restricted the States from purchasing foodgrains using OMSS and the Congress said the BJP Government favours private players over State governments.

Union Food Secretary Sanjeev Chopra said the Centre was aware of the lukewarm response to the OMSS by traders and was watching the situation. He maintained that it was the first e-auction of rice and the Centre was open to for tweaking the policy. He, however, said the policy cannot be changed for a State or a class of people.

Dilution of Article 370 led to unprecedented era of peace in J&K, Centre informs SC

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Centre on Monday filed a fresh affidavit in the Supreme Court claiming that Jammu and Kashmir is witnessing an "unprecedented era of peace, progress and prosperity" after the dilution of Article 370 in 2019.

The affidavit has been filed a day before a Constitution Bench is scheduled to hear a series of petitions challenging the dilution of Article 370, which deprived Jammu and Kashmir of its special privileges and led to the bifurcation of the State in 2019.

"Life has returned to normalcy in the region after over three decades of turmoil," the Home Ministry announced in the 20-page affidavit.

The Ministry said the "street violence", which was engineered by terrorists and secessionist networks, had become a "thing of the past".

> Life has returned to normalcy in the region after over three decades of turmoil
> **UNION HOME MINISTRY**

Organised stone-throwing incidents, linked to the terrorism-separatist agenda, had come down from 1,767 in 2018 to zero in 2023, the Centre said.

Bandhs and hartals had also become a distant memory. "Resolute anti-terror actions" had dismantled the "terror ecosystem" which led to a significant drop in terror recruitment from 199 in 2018 to 12 in 2023 till date, the Home Ministry said.

The government said it had "encouraged policies to mainstream youth" to "wean them away from militancy".

Moreover, the Centre said work on transit accommodation for the safe return of Kashmiri Pandits to the Valley was in an "advanced stage and is expected to be majorly completed in the next one year".

All-round development

The affidavit said a duly-elected three-tier panchayati raj system could be established for the first time in the history of Jammu and Kashmir after 2019. Crucial Central laws, including the right to free education for children and land acquisition compensation statutes, were now applicable.

The annual budget of Jammu and Kashmir had grown from ₹80,423 crore in 2019-20 to ₹1,18,500 crore in 2023-24. Infrastructure developments included the completion of 32 out of a total 53 projects worth ₹58,477 crore under the Prime Minister's Development Package.

SC issues notice to Centre on Delhi Ordinance, impleads L-G in case

The court will hear petition on July 17 seeking stay on Lieutenant-Governor's executive order removing 437 independent consultants of Assembly; plea said the order was passed pursuant to the promulgation of the Ordinance which gave the L-G control over 'civil services' in Delhi

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court (SC) on Monday agreed to hear on July 17 an interim plea made by the Delhi government seeking a stay of Lieutenant-Governor (L-G) V.K. Saxena's executive order "firing" 437 independent consultants of the Delhi Legislative Assembly.

Appearing before a Bench led by Chief Justice of India (CJI) D.Y. Chandrachud, senior advocate A.M. Singhvi and advocate Shadaan Farasat said the Lieutenant-Governor's order was passed pursuant to the promulgation of a Delhi Ordinance which gave the L-G control over 'civil services' in Delhi.

The interim application seeking relief for the 437 consultants was filed by the AAP government as part of its larger petition challenging the legality of the National Capital Territory of Delhi (Amendment) Ordinance, 2023.

"Their salaries have been stopped. They have stopped working... I am their employer, so I have come for interim stay of the executive order which is based on the Ordinance," Mr. Singhvi argued.

The Centre, represented by Solicitor-General Tushar Mehta, countered that many of the consultants were party workers. "One of them is the wife of a sitting MLA," Mr. Mehta alleged. Senior advocate Sanjay Jain, for the L-G, said an Article 32 petition under the Constitution cannot be "converted" to challenge the firing of "independent consultants".

Delhi Lieutenant-Governor V.K. Saxena leaving after meeting with Home Minister Amit Shah on Monday. PTI

The Bench of the Chief Justice and Justice P.S. Narasimha also issued notice to the Centre and impleaded the Lieutenant-Governor as a respondent in the petition against the Ordinance. The court directed the respondents to file their replies in two weeks.

Senior advocate A.M. Singhvi and Shadaan Farasat said the National Capital Territory of Delhi (Amendment) Ordinance, 2023, effectively gave a *carte blanche* to the bureaucrats in Delhi to disobey their Ministers.

The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) government has argued that the Ordinance was promulgated within just eight days of the Supreme Court's May 11 verdict in favour of the authority of Delhi government to make laws and administer civil services in Delhi.

The judgment of a Constitution Bench led by the Chief Justice had limited the role of the L-G over bureaucrats in the capital to three specific areas: public order, police and land.

"The Ordinance has now wrested control over civil servants serving in Delhi from the Government of NCT of Delhi to the unelected Lieutenant-Governor... It has done so without seeking to amend the Constitution, in particular Article 239AA, which holds that the power and control over services should be vested in the elected government," the Delhi government has submitted.

Mr. Singhvi said the structure of the National Capital Civil Service Authority envisaged the Chief Minister as a "minority voice" in the governance of Delhi. The Chief Minister, though the chairperson of the NCCSA, was outnumbered by the Chief Secretary and Principal Home Secretary, who function as Member and Member Secretary, respectively.

INBRIEF

Jaishankar files nomination for Rajya Sabha from Gujarat

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar on Monday filed his nomination papers for the Rajya Sabha for the second time from Gujarat. The BJP has repeated him from the State. Other two members are Jugal Thakor and Dinesh Anavadiya. At the Gujarat Assembly Secretariat where he filed his nomination papers, he was accompanied by Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel and State party chief C.R. Paatil. "First of all, I would like to express gratitude to PM Narendra Modi, BJP leadership and people of Gujarat. Four years back, I received the honour to represent Gujarat in the Rajya Sabha," he said. PTI

Trinamool announces candidates for six RS seats

The Trinamool Congress has announced its candidates for six Rajya Sabha seats in West Bengal. The party has retained three of its sitting members and announced three fresh faces, branding its choice of candidates as a blend of experience and youth. Sushmita Dev does not find space in the list. The election will be held later this month. The six names include sitting MPs Derek O'Brien, Sukhendu Sekhar Ray and Dola Sen. The newcomers are Bangla Sanskriti Mancha president Samirul Islam, Alipurduar district president Prakash Chik Baraik, and RTI activist and party spokesperson Saket Gokhale.

Nadda sets up panel to probe poll violence in West Bengal

BJP president J.P. Nadda on Monday constituted a four-member fact finding committee headed by former Union Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad to probe into the incidents of violence during panchayat polls in West Bengal. While Mr. Prasad is the committee's convenor, other members are Baghpat MP Satyapal Singh, Silchar MP Rajdeep Roy and Dhaurahara MP and party vice-president Rekha Verma. Sources said the delegation will reach the State on Tuesday and has been asked to submit its report at the earliest.

Uzra Zeya meets Kwatra, discusses Indo-Pacific cooperation, civil rights

Suhasini Haidar
NEW DELHI

Visiting U.S. Under Secretary of State Uzra Zeya met Foreign Secretary Vinay Kwatra on Monday to discuss cooperation in the Indo-Pacific region, as well as regional issues and "civilian security" or protecting civil rights.

Significantly, Ms. Zeya also met Sanjay Verma, Secretary (West), External Affairs Ministry, who is expected to travel to Ukraine later this week.

Ms. Zeya, who met with the Dalai Lama on Sunday, is due to meet civil society organisations and human rights, free speech and minority rights activists during her visit to Delhi, which ends on Tuesday.

"Grateful for the vital U.S.-India partnership & shared efforts to advance a free & open Indo-Pacific, regional stability, and civilian security," Ms. Zeya, the U.S. Under Secretary for Civil Security, Human Rights and Democracy, said in a tweet about her meeting with Mr. Kwatra.

Uzra Zeya

"Thanks for your continued partnership addressing global & regional challenges. U.S.-India cooperation is essential to our most vital priorities & a more peaceful and prosperous world," she said after meeting Mr. Verma.

Mr. Verma will head the most senior Indian delegation to visit Ukraine since the war began in February 2022 and is expected to meet Ukrainian Ministers and officials during a visit to Kyiv on July 13 and 14.

Neither side gave further details of the conversations Ms. Uzra held, and whether she raised issues over civilian security and human rights within India.

Ms. Zeya is visiting India and Bangladesh on a week-long trip that follows two weeks after Prime Minister Narendra Modi's state visit to Washington. The visiting U.S. delegation included U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Donald Lu and USAID Deputy Assistant Administrator Anjali Kaur. They will leave for Dhaka on Tuesday.

SC to hear Uddhav's plea to quash EC order on Shiv Sena name and symbol on July 31

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court (SC) on Monday agreed to hear on July 31 a petition filed by Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Uddhav Thackeray challenging an Election Commission order allotting the party name 'Shiv Sena' and symbol 'bow and arrow' to the faction led by Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde.

Appearing before Chief Justice of India (CJI) D.Y. Chandrachud for Mr. Thackeray, advocate Amit Anand Tiwari said the case was last heard on February 22 and was directed to be listed within the next three weeks. The case, however, failed to come up. The Chief Justice said the scheduled date is July 31.

Mr. Thackeray, through

Uddhav Thackeray

Mr. Tiwari, had written to the Supreme Court Registrar on Saturday for permission to urgently mention his petition against the Election Commission (EC) order of February 17 in favour of Mr. Shinde. He has contended that the order was "completely illegal" in view of the Constitution Bench judgment of the Supreme Court in May directing the Maharashtra Speaker to go ahead with the disqualification proceedings against Mr. Shinde for defection.

The letter said election was "imminent" in the State and Mr. Shinde was "illegally using the party name and symbol".

The Constitution Bench had held that the EC order would take effect only "prospectively", after the Speaker took a call on the pending disqualification petitions. Mr. Thackeray recently filed a separate petition in the court, accusing the Speaker of deliberately delaying the disqualification proceedings.

Mr. Thackeray had argued that the EC order was "unfair" and "biased". He contended that the poll body had failed in its duties as a "neutral arbiter of disputes" under the Election Symbols (Reservation and Allotment) Order of 1968.

The Hyderabad Agricultural Co-operative Association Ltd.
Regd. No.20005 (ISO 9001 : 2008)
5-10-193. IInd Floor, HACA BHAVAN, (Opp. Public Gardens), Hyderabad - 500 004. T.S.

Tender Ref. No. HACA/RG Dal/3/2023, Dated : 10/07/2023

E-TENDER NOTICE

Inviting of price bids for Procurement and supply of REDGRAM DAL FROM DAL MILLERS, WHOLESALERS AND GOVERNMENT AGENCIES FOR SUPPLY OF 3018 MTs (approx.) OF REDGRAM DAL (INDIGENOUS VARIETY) SPLITFATKA SORTEX IN 1KG PACKING LAMINATED POUCH WITH DEPARTMENT LOGO INDICATING "IT IS NOT FOR SALE" AND MEANT FOR "DISTRIBUTION TO THE AWCs ONLY", FOR SIX (06) MONTHS STARTING FROM JULY'2023 TO DECEMBER'2023 FOR DELIVERY AT TELANGANA FOODS NACHARAM, HYDERABAD. BID DOCUMENT DOWNLOADING START DATE 11/07/2023, 12.00 NOON, CLOSING DATE 18/07/2023, 12:00 NOON, FURTHER DETAILS VISIT: TELANGANA E PROCURMENT PORTAL. Sd/-
DIPR.R.O.No. : 385-PP/CL-AGENCY/ADVT/1/2023-24 Managing Director

China protests Dalai Lama meeting U.S. officials in Delhi, calls it interference

Suhasini Haidar
NEW DELHI

China on Monday protested the meeting between the Dalai Lama and officials of the "Central Tibetan Administration" (CTA) with visiting U.S. official Uzra Zeya in New Delhi, calling it an attempt to "interfere" in China's "internal affairs". Ahead of the meeting with Ms. Zeya, the Dalai Lama, who arrived in Delhi on Saturday, said that Tibetans did not seek "independence" and he was open for talks with the Chinese government, which he said had sent feelers to him.

Ms. Zeya, who is the U.S. Under Secretary for civilian security, democracy and human rights, and also the U.S. Special Coordinator for Tibetan Issues, met the Tibetan leader and the officials of the Dharmshala-based CTA on Sunday evening. Last week, Ms. Zeya attended the Dalai Lama's 88th birthday celebrations, organised by the "Office of Tibet in Washington" as well.

"Xizang [Tibet] affairs are purely internal affairs of China and no external forces have the right to interfere. China firmly opposes any form of contact between foreign officials and the "Tibetan independence" forces," the Chinese embassy spokesperson in India said in a statement, referring to the Chinese government's official name for Tibet.

Dalai Lama

China had similarly protested Ms. Zeya's visit to Dharamshala to meet the Dalai Lama in May 2022 and had opposed the setting up of the "special coordinator on Tibetan issues" post by the Biden administration in 2021.

"The U.S. should take concrete actions to honour its commitment of acknowledging Xizang as part of China, stop meddling in China's internal affairs under the pretext of Xizang-related issues, and offer no support to the anti-China separatist activities of the Dalai clique," the spokesperson added, while also referring to the CTA as a "separatist political group" not recognised by any country.

Speaking to journalists before leaving Dharamshala on Saturday, however, the Dalai Lama had said that Tibet was part of China, and that the Chinese Government had "officially and unofficially" reached out to him for talks.

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
OFFICE OF THE ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER,
EASTERN CIRCLE-I, CONTONMENT ROAD, CUTTACK.
Email id :- seeccuttack@gmail.com

"e" Procurement Notice No.ACE,EC-I/08 of 2023-24 (On-line)

1. Name of Work : Improvement and Protection to scoured bank of Birupa left embankment from Jaypur Bazar to Sahapur OAE. Bid Identification No. ACE,EC-I MND 04 of 2023-24.
2. Tender Paper Cost (Non-refundable) : Rs.10,000.00 (On-line)
3. Bid details are as follows :

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Tender Amount Rs.in Lakh) (Approx.)	EMD	Class of Contra-ctor	Period of Comple-tion	Availability of Tender On-line for bidding From	To	Date of Opening of Technical Bid (Cover-I)
Additional Chief Engineer, Eastern Circle-I, Cuttack	ACE, EC-I MND 04 of 2023-24	330	Rs.3,30,000.00 (On-line)	'A'	6 (Six) Calendar months	10.07.2023 at 10.00 hrs.	24.07.2023 upto 17.30 hrs.	25.07.2023 at 11.30 hrs.

Other terms and conditions can be seen from the Govt. website "www.tendersodisha.gov.in". All corrigendum / cancellation of tender if any, will only be uploaded in the above web site.
A-308 : Additional Chief Engineer, Eastern Circle-I, Cuttack.
OIPR-32370/11/0011/2324

NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER
Executive Engineer(C), Postal Civil Division, Thiruvananthapuram invites on behalf of the President of India, online percentage rate tenders for the following works.
NIT No.09/EE-TVM/23-24. Name of work : Repair and maintenance of Thaliparamba HPO building and SPM Quarters under Kannur Division. Estimated Cost: Rs. 83,47,004/-/-(Civil) Earnest Money: Rs. 1,66,940/- Period of completion: 10 months.
Last date and time of submission of bid: 19.07.2023 upto 11.00 hrs. The bid forms and other details can be obtained from the website https://dopcivil.euniwizarde.com

Government of Kerala
Published Tenders from 06-07-2023 to 09-07-2023

Directorate of Homoeopathy
Tender ID: 2023_DH_586369_1 * MANAGING DIRECTOR * TENDER FOR PURCHASE OF RAW MATERIALS-HERBS * Closing Date: 29-Jul-2023 * PAC: Rs27962500

State Water Transport Department
Tender ID: 2023_SWTD_586138_1 * DIRECTOR SWTD * PURCHASE OF 100PAX SOLAR BOATS * Closing Date: 05-Aug-2023 * PAC: Rs98000000
Tender ID: 2023_SWTD_586246_1 * DIRECTOR SWTD * PURCHASE OF 80PAX SOLAR BOATS * Closing Date: 05-Aug-2023 * PAC: Rs94000000

Visit https://etenders.kerala.gov.in for more details.
Ro.No:06-09/Jul/2023/PRD/(N)10

BAREILLY SMART CITY LIMITED (BSCL)
BAREILLY (UTTAR PRADESH, INDIA)
Ref. No:- BSCL/2023-24/3555 Date: 10/07/2023
Bareilly Smart City Limited, Bareilly invites e-tender for the following projects:-

S. No.	Name of the Work	Earnest Money Deposit (Rs.)	Tender Fee with GST @ 18%(Rs.)	Work Completion Period	Bid Start Date
1	Selection of Branding Agency for Labeling of the Projects executed by Bareilly Smart City Limited using Stickers, Signages, Billboards etc. as per the specifications under Smart City Mission.	1,20,000	11,800	2 Months	11/07/23 11:00 AM

1	Detailed NIT and Bid Document shall be available on:- https://etender.up.nic.in and http://www.bareillysmartcity.in
2	Tender call notice in two Bid systems (Part- I:General & Technical Bid and Part-II: financial Bid/Price Bid/BOQ) from intending bidders fulfilling the eligibility criteria mentioned in this Notice and other qualifying requirements mentioned in this RFP.
3	Amendment to NIT if any would be published on website only.
4	In case of any queries on this RFP, intending bidders may send an email to: ceo.bscl01@gmail.com

Chief Executive Officer,
Bareilly Smart City Limited, Bareilly.

KARNATAKA INDUSTRIAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT BOARD
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
49, East Wing, 4th & 5th Floor, Khanija Bhavan,
Race Course Road, Bengaluru – 560 001.
Phone No. 080-22265383, website : www.kiadb.in

No. IADB/ENGG/ETND-EP-01/7384/2023-24 Date:10.07.2023

NOTICE INVITING TENDER
(Through GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Only)

Tender under two cover bid system on Turnkey basis is invited for the work mentioned below as per the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 1999 and Rules 2000 through electronic procurement from Agencies, Individual Firms, Company, Public Sector Undertakings who have got adequate financial resources, suitable construction equipments, technical man power & sufficient past experience for the following work.

Name of the work: Establishment, Commissioning of 1.50 MLD Common Effluent Treatment Plant with 0.50MLD Capacity RO System & ZLD Facilities on Total Turnkey basis including Operation & Maintenance of entire plant for a period of 10 years at Sy.No-46 at Yarandahalli Village, Bommasandra Industrial Area 4th Phase Bengaluru Urban District for prevention of Pollution of Chandapura lake.

Last date for submission of bids is: **16.08.2023 upto 04:30 pm.**

Applicants May Download Bidding Documents from the Kanataka Public Procurement Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**.

Sd/-
DIPR/CP/500/Zen/2023-24 Chief Engineer-1, KIADB Bengaluru

INBRIEF

Navantia, L&T team up to bid for Navy's submarine tender

Three weeks ahead of the deadline to submit bids for the Navy's submarine tender under Project-75I, Spanish submarine manufacturer Navantia and India's Larsen and Toubro (L&T) on Monday concluded a teaming agreement to jointly bid for the project. The other bid is by Thyssenkrupp Marine Systems with Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Ltd. Under the agreement, Navantia will carry out the design of P-75I submarines based on its S-80, the first of which was launched in 2021 and is undergoing sea trials prior to its delivery to the Spanish Navy by 2023-end, while L&T will be responsible for constructing the submarines.

HC sets aside order cancelling OCI status of academic

The Delhi High Court on Monday quashed an order of the Centre cancelling the Overseas Citizenship of India (OCI) status of academic Ashok Swain. Mr. Swain, Head of Department at the Department of Peace and Conflict Research, Uppsala University, Sweden, said that pursuant to a show-cause notice in 2020, his OCI card was arbitrarily barred for alleged inflammatory speeches. The court noted that the order did not give any reasons and it "hardly gave any indication of application of mind". It directed the Centre to pass a detailed order within three weeks giving reasons for exercising its powers under the Citizenship Act, 1955.

NCST notice to Odisha over attack on migrant worker

The National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST) has now issued notices to the Odisha government, and the Director General of the Railway Protection Force, in a case where a Scheduled Tribe migrant worker from Kandhamal district was assaulted at a railway station in Mumbai while on his way to Gujarat. In the complaint sent to the NCST by civil rights lawyer Radhakanta Tripathy, it was said that the 22-year-old migrant worker, Angad Mallick's arms were chopped off by the group of people who had attacked him in late April. The complainant said that the incident only came to light when Mr. Mallick returned to his village on June 30.

K. Kasturirangan suffers cardiac arrest in Sri Lanka

Former Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) chairperson and head of the New Education Policy's drafting committee K. Kasturirangan suffered a heart attack in Sri Lanka and is being shifted to Bengaluru for treatment, sources said on Monday. His condition is stated to be stable, they added. He had been Chancellor of Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) and Chairman of the Karnataka Knowledge Commission. He has been a former member of the Rajya Sabha and a former member of the now-defunct Planning Commission. He was also the Director of the National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bangalore, from April 2004 to 2009. PTI

Unprecedented situation, says CM as rain leaves Delhi on the skids

Nitin Gadkari reviews flood situation and impact on National Highways in several States such as Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Delhi, Haryana, Arunachal Pradesh and Tripura and Jammu & Kashmir, asks officials to prioritise repairs

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

As many parts of the national capital witnessed heavy waterlogging over the past two days, Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Monday said that Delhi's system had not been designed to handle the level of "unprecedented" rainfall it had witnessed.

"In 24 hours from July 8 to July 9, 153 mm of rainfall was received by Delhi. This is the highest in 40 years. This is unprecedented. Delhi's system is not designed to handle this much rainfall and people faced a lot of problems," Mr. Kejriwal said at a press conference.

The national capital's current drainage master plan was made in 1976, when the population of the city was about 60 lakh. Since then, the population of the city has increased about four times, but a new drainage master plan is yet to be finalised and implemented.

Extreme weather: The damaged Bhuntar Valley bridge after a section was washed away in the swollen Beas river owing to incessant rain in Kullu district of Himachal Pradesh on Monday. PTI

The Chief Minister said this was not a time for "finger pointing" as it was an "unprecedented" situation. "This is the time when everyone – the State governments, the Centre and the people – need to come together and work," he said.

Delhi received 107.3 mm of rainfall in the 24 hours ending at 8.30 a.m. on Monday and 2.9 mm of rainfall in the following nine hours, according to the India Meteorological Department.

Light to moderate rain is expected on Tuesday, and more rain is predicted till Sunday.

The Chief Minister said that the government was doing all it could to solve the problem of waterlogging.

Highways hit

The flooding of the Beas river in Himachal Pradesh has cut off a section of National Highway 3 from Kullu to Manali, forcing the National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) to close it for traffic. The course of the Beas river has shifted close to the National Highway near the Raison Toll Plaza and has caused heavy damage at eight to 10 locations.

"Public is advised to be extremely careful and make use of advisories issued by State Government of Himachal and Met Department," the NHAI said on social media. It added that the district administration was monitoring the situation in the region.

Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari reviewed the flood situation and its impact on National Highways in several States, including Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Delhi, Haryana, Arunachal Pradesh and Tripura.

At a special meeting attended by the Secretary, Road Transport and Highways, the NHAI Chairman, and other officers, Mr. Gadkari instructed officials to prioritise the repair and maintenance of the affected highways.

SC seeks govt. response on plea to protect wetlands

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Monday recorded that the number of wetlands in the country has expanded from ₹2.01 lakh to ₹2.31 lakh since 2017, and sought the Centre's response on a plea to protect the enhanced wetland areas which act as a natural protection from floods.

"In Delhi alone, 27 wetlands are there... None of them have been notified... Waste and garbage get dumped there... This issue is important when cities are witnessing heavy floods after rains," senior advocate Gopal Sankaranarayanan, for petitioner M.K. Balakrishnan, submitted before a Bench led by Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud.

The Bench asked Additional Solicitor-General Aishwarya Bhati, for the Centre, to take "appropriate instructions" on the plea. Ms. Bhati submitted that wetland identification and conservation had been "decentralised" after the notification of the Wetlands Rules, 2017.

Import of urea may ease by 2025, alternative forms will replace it, says Mandaviya

A.M. Jigeesh
NEW DELHI

Union Minister for Chemicals and Fertilizers Manukh Mandaviya says a special package estimated at ₹3.7 lakh crore for farmers have to be brought in as the use of fertilizers has become unbalanced in the country. Talking to *The Hindu*, he said the nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium ratio should have been 4:2:1, instead it is 8:3:1 in the country now.

"The balance of the soil has been damaged and production has become saturated as a result. Soil health, human health, animal health, and environmental health are connected with one another. To promote one health package, we brought this scheme," he said.

Mr. Mandaviya, however, said the Centre is in no hurry to shift to natural farming. "Overuse of fertilizers, according to a study, resulted in a 16% decrease in production in Punjab despite a 10% increase in the use of fertilizers in the State during the same period. This is leading to the deterioration of soil health over a period of time. It is clear that balanced use of fertilizers is needed for steady production, food security, and for helping farmers too," the Minister said.

Mansukh Mandaviya

He mentioned that there is no move to stop the consumption of chemical fertilizers completely.

"The country is moving towards natural farming and organic farming, step by step. We cannot go to organic farming suddenly which could lead to a Sri Lanka-like situation. Our attempt is to end import dependence on urea by 2025 and replace it with nano urea and other alternative forms of urea," Mr. Mandaviya said. Nano urea too will not fully replace conventional urea, he added.

"Awareness has to be built among farmers about nano urea and they will start using it. Farmers had not accepted chemical fertilizers too very soon. Nano urea was approved after all scientific studies by several governmental institutions and departments. It will not harm soil health. A 500-ml bottle of nano urea will replace one bag of 45 kilograms of urea. It will reduce the transportation costs as well. Farmers will happily accept nano urea," Mr. Mandaviya said.

Adding, the country cannot compromise on food security, and farmers' income should also not come down.

Rafales, Scorpenes and jet engine development on the agenda of PM's France trip

Dinakar Peri
NEW DELHI

As Prime Minister Narendra Modi visits Paris later this week as chief guest at the Bastille Day parade, deals for Rafale-M fighters and three more Scorpene-class submarines for the Navy and co-development of a fighter jet engine are on the agenda.

Ahead of this, the Defence Acquisition Council (DAC) is expected to hold a crucial meet in the next couple of days where it is likely to take a call on the procurement of 26 Rafale-M fighters for the Navy's aircraft carriers and the proposal for additional Scorpene submarines that is in the pipeline.

The Rafale-M proposal has been cleared by the Defence Procurement Board (DPB) for the Navy's carrier jet race in which Boeing F/A-18 Super Hornet has also competed.

The DPB decision clears the process for the case to be put for a decision by the DAC, the highest decision-making body in the Defence Ministry. There is still a long process which includes price negotiations and in the final step, it goes to the Cabinet Committee on Security for approval before the deal can be signed.

Air dominance: A Rafale jet of the Indian Air Force files during the Aero India 2023 show in Bengaluru. FILE PHOTO

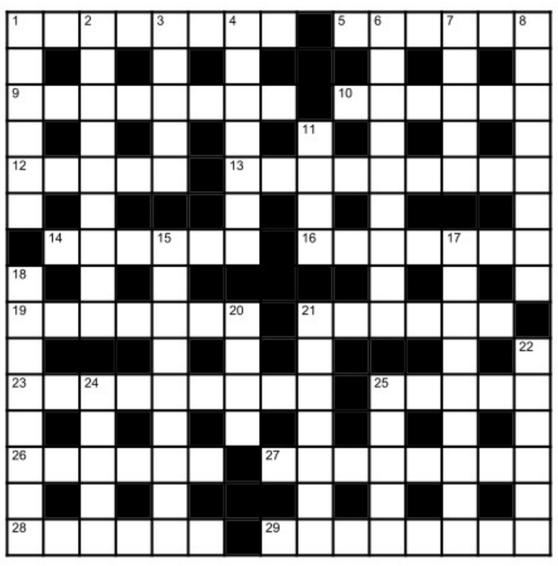
In March, Navy chief Adm R. Hari Kumar has said that both Boeing's F/A-18 E/F Super Hornet and Dassault Aviation's Rafale-M fighters meet the requirements of the Navy and a selection between them will be the government's decision, while adding that the Rafale-M has commonality with the Air Force in terms of spares and support. The Air Force operates 36 Rafale jets customised for Indian requirements under a €7.87 billion deal signed in April 2016. An indigenous Twin Engine Deck-Based Fighter is under development by Aeronautical Development Agency under DRDO.

TH CROSSWORD + 13914

(set by Lightning)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

1 Disregards note by German, chooses to go outside (8)
5 On the way back, briefly glance at emergency room warden (6)
9 One that may cut off boundaries, throw and hit more regularly (5,3)
10 Carve statue primarily with faith overwhelming power (6)
12 Blanket insurance (5)
13 Lumber one chopped in Australian city (9)
14 Cause a hospital department to suffer? (6)
16 First class team after a loss (setback) in free fall (7)
19 One that cleans small scarf for mourning (7)
21 Files daughter scattered in meadows (6)
23 Badges not working at this cricket ground (9)
25 Measure protects ordinary use (5)
26 Boldly display special stroke (6)
27 Oval ski resort area in country (8)
28 Troy also sheltered princes, perhaps (6)
29 A place to enter without appeal gets editor stirred up (8)

Down

1 Look, it's good to get back inside (6)
2 Complaint about care given (9)
3 Tree of long standing (5)
4 Shackle on vehicle melted partly (7)
6 Make certain chlorine, oxygen held within fenced area (9)
7 Such a bear may be in the north or south (5)
8 Goes back with rodents circling crooked tree (8)
11 Primarily small lapse in preparation? (4)
15 Shock about short spike in pricing (9)
17 One who may stop halfway between stumps? (3,6)
18 Animals sorted in half by one that evaluates (8)
20 Price of unopened container (4)
21 Excellent support for position (4,3)
22 Be upright around royal thoroughfare in London (6)
24 Cheat head Yankee at small channel (5)
25 Turn to very important person from the south (5)

SUDOKU

			3	6	2	7		9
3		7						
6			9			4		
1					6	8		
2								6
		3	8					7
		4			3			8
						6		5
5		6	7	8	1			

No.SS5854 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★☆

Solution to previous puzzle

	S	U		S		A		S		B				
S	T	O	P		P	A	C	H	Y	D	E	R	M	
	I		T		H		R		N		T		E	
I	G	N	O	R	E		O	L	D	H	A	N	D	S
	M				R		B		R				I	
H	A	B	A	N	E	R	A		O	L	D	M	A	N
	T		L				T		M		R			
C	A	B	B	A	G	E		S	E	M	I	N	A	R
			U		U		S				L		R	
S	C	A	M	P	I			H	E	A	D	L	A	M	P
	H				D		A		S				C	
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	I		L		D		L		U		R		N	
	R	E	A	S	O	N	O	U	T		A	I	D	E
			N		G		W		E		N		Y	

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

9	8	3	1	2	7	5	6	4
4	1	6	3	9	5	8	2	7
7	2	5	6	4	8	3	1	9
3	9	8	2	5	4	1	7	6
5	6	4	7	1	3	2	9	8
1	7	2	8	6	9	4	3	5
6	4	1	9	8	2	7	5	3
8	3	9	5	7	1	6	4	2
2	5	7	4	3	6	9	8	1

FAITH

Mercy, important quality

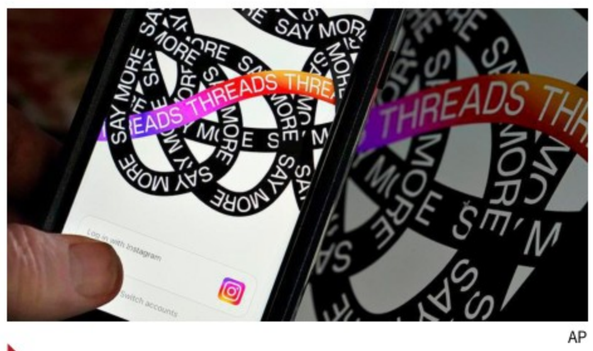
If we read the works of Azhwars and the commentaries on their verses, we get a clear idea of who is a true Vaishnava, elaborated M.A. Venkatakrishnan in a discourse.

Nanjeeyar, a Sri Vaishnava Acharya, said we can examine ourselves to see if we are Vaishnavas. If we feel sorry for a man who is sorrowful, then we qualify to be called Sri Vaishnavas. If we are indifferent to his suffering, or think that he deserves his fate, then we cannot call ourselves Vaishnavas. We must resort to self-examination. It is not for us to decide whether someone else is a Vaishnava or not. It is best we analyse ourselves.

In one commentary, while explaining the *Ongi Ulagalandha* pasuram of *Thiruppavai*, an incident is narrated. There was a man named Ramanujadasan in a place called Maraneri. The incident tells of a conversation he had with a certain group of people and his advice to them. One day a group of scholars was proceeding along a narrow path. Behind them came a man with a big bundle on his head. Usually, the rule was that if an old man, or a man carrying a big weight, or a pregnant woman or an ailing person happened to come along, then the others must move aside, and give them the first right of passage. But scholars were greatly honoured, with even kings showing them respect. The scholars on the path did not move aside for the man carrying the burden, for they felt that as learned men, they had the right to pass through first. Maraneri Ramanujadasan told them, "While you may be honoured people, is there any rule that prohibits you from being merciful and kind to a man carrying such a heavy weight? Mercy is more important than anything else."

PARIS

Twitter rival Threads surpasses 100 mn users in less than five days



AP

The Threads app launched by Instagram as a rival to Twitter has signed up more than 100 million users in less than five days, data tracking websites showed. While ChatGPT took two months to hit the 100 million mark and TikTok took nine months, Instagram took two-and-a-half years to reach that mark after its 2010 launch. AFP

BEIJING

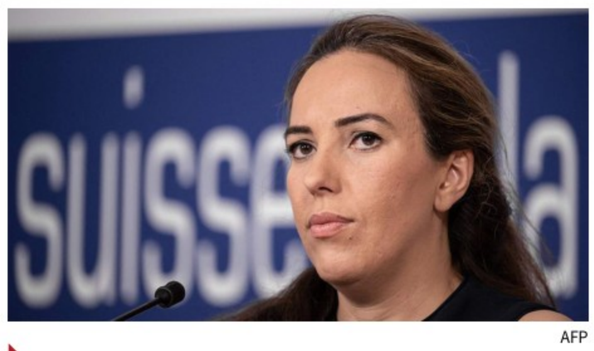
Six, including three children, killed in kindergarten attack in China

REUTERS

Six persons were killed and one wounded in a kindergarten stabbing in China's Guangdong province. "The victims include one teacher, two parents and three students," said a spokeswoman for the city government. A 25-year-old man was arrested and the local police said that it was an "intentional assault". AFP

GENEVA

WikiLeaks founder's wife appeals to U.S. President for clemency



AFP

Stella Moris-Assang, wife of WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange, is petitioning the British government's decision to extradite him to the U.S. and has appealed for clemency from the U.S. President. The Australian publisher is the object of a U.S. extradition request to face trial for divulging U.S. military secrets. AFP

MADRID

Rescuers save 86 migrants from boat near Canary Islands

REUTERS

Spain's coastguard said it rescued 86 migrants from sub-Saharan Africa from a boat near the Canary Islands. Officials said they had found the boat with six women and 80 men on board as rescuers were searching for a missing migrant boat that had "left Senegal with around 200 people on board". AFP

Biden meets Sunak, King in U.K. before NATO summit

The U.S. President and the British PM discussed the progress of Ukraine's counter-offensive and emphasised the importance of Kyiv's partners committing to its long-term defence

Sriram Lakshman
LONDON

U.S. President Joe Biden held meetings with British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak and the country's monarch, King Charles III, on Monday, on an overnight stopover in London, en route to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) summit in Vilnius, Lithuania. The conversation at No.10 was the sixth meeting between Mr. Biden and Mr. Sunak, with the two leaders exchanging notes before the NATO summit.

Sitting in the garden at Downing Street mid-morning on Monday, sipping tea, Mr. Biden described the U.S. relationship with the U.K. as "rock solid".

"We stand as two of the firmest allies in that alliance and I know we'll want to do everything we can to strengthen Euro-Atlantic security," Mr. Sunak said. Mr. Biden and Mr. Sunak discussed "the progress of the [Ukrainian] counter-offensive and emphasised the importance of the country's international partners committing to its long-term defence, providing the support Ukraine needs to win this war and secure a just and lasting peace", a Downing Street spokesperson said.

American allies – including the U.K. – have, however, shown reluctance to join the U.S. in its "very difficult decision" (as Mr. Biden has described it) to provide cluster munitions to Ukraine. U.S. National Security Adviser Jake Sullivan said the refusal of Mr. Sunak (and other NATO allies) was not a sign of their waning support for Ukraine.

Forever allies: Rishi Sunak, left, greets Joe Biden on the doorstep of 10 Downing Street in London on Monday. GETTY IMAGES

"I do not think you will see fracture, division, or disunity as... as a result of this decision, even though many allies and signatories to Oslo [the Convention] are in a position where they themselves cannot say, 'We are for cluster munitions,'" Mr. Sullivan told the White House press corps on board Air Force One during the U.S. delegation's flight to London.

Sweden's membership

Mr. Biden and Mr. Sunak also discussed Sweden's pending membership to NATO on Monday. Mr. Biden has been pushing for the country to join the alliance, preferably during the Vilnius summit, but negotiations with Turkey, which is the strongest opponent to the membership, are still under way. Ankara had previously expressed dissatisfaction with Swedish anti-terrorism laws, and its housing of Kurdish separatists in exile in Sweden.

Erdogan's demand

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said, on Monday, that he had conveyed to Mr. Biden during a Sunday phone call, that he would cease objecting to Sweden's application if the EU opened up membership talks for Turkey. Turkey's EU membership talks have been stalled since 2016, over human rights considerations.

In an interview with CNN on Sunday, Mr. Biden linked the sale of U.S. F-16 fighter aircraft to Ankara and Greece, to NATO expansion, i.e., Turkey (and Hungary) dropping their objections to Sweden's proposed membership to the alliance.

At Downing Street, the President and Prime Minister also held talks on the Atlantic Declaration – an economic and technology framework agreement signed between the U.K. and the U.S. in June, as well as AI, according to Downing Street. The U.K., which is grappling with questions about its identity on the international stage after its exit from the EU, is seeking to become a leader in the field of AI, and will host an international AI conference in the autumn, which the two leaders discussed, according to Downing Street. The U.S. readout was far less specific, not specifically referring to the summit. Following his meeting with Mr. Sunak, Mr. Biden was hosted by the King at Windsor Castle, where he received an honour guard and "took tea", as per the BBC, with the British monarch.

The King and President then met with private sector leaders and philanthropists to discuss outcomes of a conference on private sector climate finance. This is their first meeting since the coronation of the King, who, as Prince of Wales, had a long-standing involvement in climate-change related issues.

Mr. Biden was accompanied by U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken and National Security Adviser Jake Sullivan, among others, to both events on Monday. Mr. Biden's special envoy for climate, John Kerry, was also present at Winsor Castle for the climate finance discussions.

Russian President met Wagner chief Prigozhin days after mutiny: Kremlin

Associated Press
KYIV

Russian President Vladimir Putin met with Wagner leader Yevgeny Prigozhin days after a short-lived rebellion by the mercenary chief and his private Army, the Kremlin's spokesman said on Monday.

The three-hour meeting took place at the Kremlin on June 29 and also involved commanders from the military company Mr. Prigozhin founded, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said.

Wagner mercenaries have fought alongside Russian troops in Ukraine. Mr. Prigozhin has a long-simmering feud with Russia's top military brass which on June 24 culminated in an armed mutiny in which he led his fighters into Russia.

Mr. Prigozhin ended the mutiny after a deal was brokered for him to be exiled to Belarus.

Face off: Following the failed mutiny, Vladimir Putin had termed Wagner chief Yevgeny Prigozhin a backstabbing traitor. AP

New twist

The confirmation of a face-to-face meeting with Mr. Putin, who has branded Mr. Prigozhin as a backstabbing traitor, adds a new twist to the uncertainty surrounding the mercenary chief. His fate and whereabouts have been unknown since the abortive mutiny, which severely weakened Mr. Putin's authority.

Mr. Peskov said that during the June 29 meeting, Mr. Putin offered an "assessment" of Wagner's actions on the battlefield in Ukraine and "of the events of June 24."

"The commanders themselves presented their version of what happened. They underscored that they are staunch supporters and soldiers of the head of state and the commander-in-chief, and also said that they are ready to continue to fight for their homeland," Mr. Peskov said.

A total of 35 people took part in the meeting, including Wagner commanders and the leadership of the company, namely Mr. Prigozhin himself.

Also Monday, Russia's Defence Ministry published a video featuring the country's military chief – the first time Gen. Valery Gerasimov was shown since the rebelling aimed to oust him.

Longest-serving Dutch PM Rutte quits politics after 13 years in power

Agence France-Presse
THE HAGUE

Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte announced on Monday he was quitting politics after nearly 13 years in power, in a shock end to his time as the longest-serving leader in the history of the Netherlands.

Nicknamed "Teflon Mark" for surviving scandals that hit his four governments, the centre-right leader said he would stand down after elections sparked by the collapse of his latest coalition over a row about migration.

The second longest-serving leader in the European Union, the 56-year-old Mr. Rutte said that he had "mixed feelings" about bowing out but that it "feels good to pass the baton".

The bike-riding, frugal-living premier has steered the Netherlands through more than a decade of economic upheaval and the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mark Rutte

MH17 incident

The most significant event of his time in power was the shooting down of Malaysia Airlines flight MH17 over Ukraine in 2014, Mr. Rutte added. The majority of the 298 victims of the plane, which was travelling from Amsterdam to Kuala Lumpur, were Dutch. "That was so big," he said.

Solomon Islands and China sign deals on police, economy, tech

Associated Press
BEIJING

Under PM Manasseh Sogavare, Solomon Islands had switched recognition from Taiwan to Beijing

Leaders of the Solomon Islands and China promised to expand relations that have fuelled unease in Washington and Australia about Beijing's influence in the South Pacific.

Prime Minister Manasseh Sogavare met Chinese leader Xi Jinping and the country's No. 2 leader, Premier Li Qiang. Mr. Sogavare and Mr. Li presided over the signing of agreements on police, economic and technical cooperation.

"We are here to further boost relations," Mr. Sogavare told Mr. Li.

The Solomon Islands, 2,000 kilometres northeast of Australia, has been China's biggest success in a campaign to expand its presence in the South Pacific. Mr. Sogavare's government switched official recognition in 2019 to Beijing from Taiwan, the self-governed island democracy claimed by the mainland's ruling Communist Party as part of its territory.

The Solomon Islands signed a secretive security agreement with Beijing that might have allowed Chinese military forces in the South Pacific. However, Mr. Sogavare rejected suggestions his government might give Beijing a foothold in the region.

Meeting later with Mr. Sogavare, Mr. Xi said Beijing wants to expand relations and trade through its Belt and Road Initiative to build ports and other infrastructure from the Pacific across Asia and Africa.

INBRIEF

RIL shares jump almost 4%, m-cap climbs ₹67,326 crore

Shares of Reliance Industries Ltd. on Monday jumped almost 4%, with its market valuation surging by ₹67,326 crore. The stock rallied 3.78% to settle at ₹2,735.15 on the BSE. During the day, the index heavyweight stock jumped 4.53% to hit its 52-week high of ₹2,755. At the NSE, it climbed 3.85% to end at ₹2,735.25. The rally in the stock added ₹67,326.07 crore to RIL's market valuation, which stood at ₹18,50,496.31 crore. It was the biggest gainer on both the Sensex and Nifty. PTI

Hyundai unveils entry-level SUV Exter at ₹5.99 lakh

Hyundai Motor India Limited (HMIL) has announced the introduction of its entry-level SUV Exter at prices starting from ₹5,99,999. "We have always created new benchmarks in the industry with its revolutionary products and technologies. Yet again, with Exter we are proud to introduce an SUV that embodies Hyundai's commitment to innovative design, intelligent technology and exceptional performance," said HMIL's MD & CEO Unsoo Kim.

Packaging solutions company Pakka gets listed on the NSE

Packaging solutions provider Yash Pakka Ltd., which has been listed on the BSE since 1992, on Monday got listed on the NSE in a new identity 'Pakka Ltd.' in a bid to enhance its investor base. The company, which provides regenerative packaging to QSR, food-carry and food services, has announced capacity expansion at its Ayodhya unit with an investment of ₹550 crore. The expansion is expected to be operational in 2025, said vice-chairman Ved Krishna.

FPIs not having to disclose final owner is challenge in Adani-Hindenburg case: SEBI

Essential 'challenge' to probe did not emanate from the repeal of provisions from the Foreign Portfolio Investor regulations of 2019, markets regulator tells Supreme Court

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) on Monday informed the Supreme Court that the "challenge" to its enquiry into the Hindenburg-Adani allegations case lay in the fact that the requirement to disclose the "last natural person" or the ultimate owner of Foreign Portfolio Investors remains non-existent.

The markets regulator clarified that, unlike what the Supreme Court-appointed Justice A.M. Sapre expert committee had concluded in its 173-page report in May, the essential "challenge" to the SEBI enquiry did not emanate from the repeal of the "opaque structure" provisions from the Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPI) Regulations in 2019. SEBI also denied the committee's conclusion that securities' violations have "sky-rocketed".

'Drew a blank'

In its May report, the Justice Sapre committee had said the regulator drew a blank in its investigation into the Hindenburg allegations against the Adani group. The committee had found the SEBI in a "chicken-and-egg situation" in its investigation into the "ownership" of 13 overseas entities, including 12 FPIs.

But the regulator identified its difficulties to the existence of thresholds for determination of beneficial owners (BO) of these FPIs. In addition, the SEBI said, the core problem lay in the fact that there had never been any requirement to disclose the "last natural person above every person" owning economic interest in the FPI.

"Since granular details of all underlying investors with ownership, economic, or control interest in entities below the threshold was never required to be made available to the Designated Depository Participants/Custodian of Securities, there was a possibility that the same natural person could hold a significant aggregate economic interest in the FPI via different investing entities, each of which were individually below the threshold for identification as a BO," SEBI, represented by advocate Pratap Venugopal, explained in a 46-page report filed through KJ John and Co.

SEBI said there was also "ambiguity" regarding entities with economic interest but no ostensible control in an FPI. Even the Prevention of Money Laundering Act required BO identification only on the basis of control or ownership. "Thus, the investment manager/ trustee... is then identified as the BO of the FPI.

Consequently, while in compliance with the regulations, the actual investing constituents with economic interest may not be identified as BOs of the FPI. This issue is further accentuated if holdings of such investors are spread through multiple FPIs," the SEBI highlighted. It said even the Financial Action Task Force, the global money laundering and terrorist financing watchdog, had identified the nebulousness over the "last natural person above every person owning any economic interest in an FPI" as a global challenge.

The SEBI Board on June 28, 2023 "has approved the proposal for additional granular disclosures to the last investor from specified types of FPIs that either hold more than 50% of Assets Under Management (AUM) in a single corporate group, or have total AUM of over ₹25,000 crore," the report informed.

'Not hit a wall'

SEBI differed with the panel's conclusion that the regulator had hit a wall due to amendments made in 2018 in the FPI Regulations of 2014. "In 2018, the very provision dealing with 'opaque structure' and requiring an FPI to be able to disclose every ultimate natural person at the end of the chain of every owner of economic interest in the FPI was done away with," the report had observed.

It had said for the SEBI to put to rest its suspicions in the Adani-Hindenburg case, its investigation would require information about the "ultimate economic ownership", and not just "beneficial owners", of the 13 overseas entities.

Question of final ownership

The Justice A.M. Sapre panel had said SEBI drew a blank in its investigation into Hindenburg's allegations on Adani due to changes made in 2018

- Court-appointed panel said SEBI was in a "chicken-and-egg situation" in its investigation into "ownership" of 13 overseas entities, including 12 FPIs
- SEBI said core problem was there had never been any requirement to disclose the "last natural person above every person" owning economic interest in the FPI

Go First seeks interest from investors to buy airline

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Go First's Resolution Professional (RP) has invited an expression of interest from investors to buy the airline.

A newspaper advertisement from Shailendra Ajmera, who was named RP by creditors, said interested players must submit their expression of interest by August 9. The advertisement said the airline has 4,200 employees and total revenue from operations in the financial year 2021-2022 was ₹4,183 crore.

Net direct tax collections rise 16% to ₹4.75 lakh cr.

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Direct tax collections have picked up pace over the past month, with net inflows rising 15.9% to ₹4.75 lakh crore by July 9, helping the government meet more than 26% of its target for this year.

Gross direct taxes, which had risen 12.7% as of June 17, had grown 14.65% to ₹5.17 lakh crore by July 9, the I-T Department said.

"Refunds amounting to ₹42,000 crore have been issued during April 1, 2023, to July 9, 2023, 2.55% higher than the preceding year," a statement said.

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	MONDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	65,344	0.10
US Dollar	82.59	0.02
Gold	59,505	0.45
Brent oil	78.42	–

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	2410.25	30.65
Adani Ports	720.10	1.40
Apollo Hosp	5158.35	12.10
Asian Paints	3343.15	-0.55
Axis Bank	964.05	-12.65
Bajaj Auto	4897.95	63.95
Bajaj Finserv	1597.80	-17.10
Bajaj Finance	7533.25	-89.10
Bharti Airtel	885.40	14.95
BPCL	386.20	-5.45
Britannia Ind	5031.85	-22.65
Cipla	1016.70	-3.95
Coal India	233.75	-0.25
Divis Lab	3639.95	-28.70
Dr Reddys Lab	5154.95	-27.55
Eicher Motors	3173.90	-10.90
Grasim Ind	1743.00	-0.30
HCL Tech	1124.50	-33.10
HDFC	2765.45	-4.00
HDFC Bank	1656.45	-3.95
HDFC Life	668.25	10.15
Hero MotoCorp	3123.70	-24.50
Hindalco	427.85	5.15
Hind Unilever	2656.55	-41.55
ICICI Bank	948.40	2.00
IndusInd Bank	1367.00	9.90
Infosys	1329.15	-1.05
ITC	465.85	-2.55
JSW Steel	810.60	22.20
Kotak Bank	1866.90	13.40
L&T	2438.75	-10.60
M&M	1551.40	-12.75
Maruti Suzuki	9736.30	-113.95
NestleIndia	22580.25	-325.95
NTPC	191.55	-1.05
ONGC	162.75	-0.75
PowerGrid Corp	250.00	-5.45
Reliance Ind	2735.05	101.45
SBI Life	1293.30	-0.70
State Bank	592.60	-1.00
Sun Pharma	1045.00	9.30
TataConsumerProduct	825.65	-7.60
Tata Motors	618.65	0.45
Tata Steel	115.30	3.70
TCS	3271.95	-57.30
Tech Mahindra	1147.15	-8.85
Titan	3045.55	-98.45
UltraTech Cement	8351.35	14.90
UPL	660.10	-2.90
Wipro	389.95	-5.90

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on July 10

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	82.37	82.69
Euro	90.26	90.61
British Pound	105.41	105.83
Japanese Yen (100)	57.78	58.01
Chinese Yuan	11.38	11.43
Swiss Franc	92.57	92.94
Singapore Dollar	61.05	61.29
Canadian Dollar	61.96	62.20
Malaysian Ringitt	17.63	17.73
Australian Dollar	54.66	54.88

Source:Indian Bank

TI Clean Mobility to set up e-tractor factory in Chennai

N. Anand
CHENNAI

M.A.M. Arunachalam

TI Clean Mobility Pvt. Ltd., a subsidiary of Tube Investments of India Ltd. (TII), has started setting up production facilities for the manufacture of electric tractors for the agriculture segment in Chennai, and electric trucks for the commercial segment at Manesar, said its executive chairman M.A.M. Arunachalam.

"We foresee a huge opportunity for tractors in the country, with supportive government policies on farm mechanisation and green energy programmes. Similarly, the e-M&HCV segment has a huge and untapped potential, with the technology and mass adoption still in nascent stages of the... growth trajectory," he said in the latest annual report.

"Our biggest focus is the EV segment where we foresee an immense opportunity for growth," said Mukesh Ahuja, MD, adding that TII's vision is to operate on multiple platforms in the productive vector of the EV spectrum.

"We are at a significant stage of disruption in the EV industry in India, with immense unexplored possibilities," Mr. Ahuja said.

TII acquired Cellestial E-Mobility to design and build e-tractors. Plans are on to unveil three models of e-tractors in four-wheel drives for different end-user needs by FY24. In line with plans to expand the scale and scope of the EV business, TI Clean Mobility aims to raise funds to the tune of ₹3,000 crore, to help meet its growth plans through organic and inorganic streams.

After the introduction of e-scooter Montra, TICMPL is also developing cargo and e-rickshaw variants, which are expected to be unveiled in the second half of fiscal year 2024.

GST Tribunal: Industry seeks time-bound resolution

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

With the Goods and Services Tax (GST) Council expected to consider the constitution of appellate tribunals for disputes about the indirect tax at its meeting on Tuesday, industry has pleaded for a streamlined system to decide on similar cases that have piled up in the tribunals' absence and clear rules on procedures with timelines for resolution.

While the GST regime is now six years old, taxpayers have had to approach courts to resolve disputes as the Centre dithered on setting up the GST Appellate Tribunal.

'India pips China as best emerging market for investing'

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

India has overtaken China as the most attractive emerging market for investing for sovereign wealth funds in 2023 due to its solid demographics, political stability and proactive regulation, according to a report published on Monday.

The Invesco Global Sovereign Asset Management report has captured the views of 142 chief investment officers, heads of asset classes, and senior portfolio strategists from 85 sovereign wealth funds and 57 central banks. Collectively, these institutions manage about $21 trillion in assets. As per the report, India is a better story now in terms of business and political stability. Fast-growing demographics, good regulation initiatives, and a 'very' friendly environment for sovereign investors are positives for the country.

"India has now overtaken China as the most attractive emerging market for investing in emerging market debt," Invesco stated. It noted India is benefitting from increased foreign corporate investment. In addition, India and South Korea continue to be the best destinations for increasing exposure.

Ramco Cements to buy Prism's limestone bearing lands in A.P.

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Prism also approved transfer of the mining lease given by the A.P. government to Ramco Cements

The Ramco Cements Ltd. (RCL) said it had entered into a agreement with Prism Johnson Ltd. for acquisition of 1,420.72 acres of the latter's limestone-bearing lands in Nandyal district of Andhra Pradesh for an undisclosed sum.

Prism's board had also approved transferring of the mining lease granted by the Andhra Pradesh Government to RCL. The mining lease extends to more than 663.46 hectares.

The transaction is expected to be completed by July 31, Ramco Cements said in a regulatory filing.

Prism said it had proposed to set-up a greenfield cement manufacturing plant in A.P. However, current priorities did not warrant an investment in setting up of the plant and hence, the company said, it had opted for monetisation of the asset.

RCL said it was making continuous efforts to accumulate limestone reserves for its cement manufacturing operations.

CCH-58 HG: 18/09/2023

IN THE COURT OF THE 57th ADDITIONAL CITY CIVIL & SESSIONS JUDGE, MAYO HALL AT BENGALURU (CCH-58)
O.S. NO. 26232/2021

BETWEEN:
RAMANUJAM P S/o Purushothaman Aged about 33 years R/at No. N.88, 2nd Cross, Vannerpet Layout Vivekanagar, Bengaluru-560 047.
.....Plaintiff
V/s
Smt. VIMALA RAVI
NOTICE TO DEFENDANT
Smt. Vimala Rani W/o. S.A. Ravi Aged about 43 years R/at No. 260,. 1st Cross Viveknagar Further Extension Bengaluru - 560 047 **.....Defendant**
Whereas, the above named Plaintiff has filed Original Suit in O.S. No. 26232/2021 praying for Permanent Injunction Restraining the Defendant, her agent, servants, executors, administrators, henchmen or anybody acting under her to create any third party claim over the Suit Schedule Property and not to dispose to anybody which in the possession of the plaintiff.
Be it know that no Caveat has been entered and the said case is posted for hearing on 18th August, 2023 at 11.00 am before the 57th Hon'ble ADDITIONAL CITY CIVIL & SESSIONS JUDGE, at Mayo Hall, BENGALURU (CCH-58), Any Person/s claiming to have any interest may participate in the proceedings. Hence the presence of the Defendant is necessary to answer before the Hon'ble Court in respect of the below described Suit Schedule Property.
SCHEDULE
All that piece and parcel of the immovable property residential premises site bearing **No. 264,** situated at **Sonnenahalli Further Extension, now known as Viveknagar Further Extension, Bangalore - 560047,** having Unique PID No. 71-1-264 measuring East to West: 7.60 Meters and North to South: 6.15 Meters and bounded on:
East by : Property No. 263, West by : Property No. 265, North by : Property No. 219 and South by : Road
Together with building consisting of Ground, First and Second Floor.
Given under my hand and seal of the Court on this 30th Day of June, 2023 at Bengaluru
BY ORDER OF THE COURT
DEPUTY REGISTRAR
CIVIL COURT, MAYOHALL UNIT
BENGALURU - 560 001
Advocate for Plaintiff
V.SHANTHA KUMAR
B.com, LLB., PG.DPM
Advocate
No. 244, 4th Cross, Oil Mill Road
St. Thomas Town Post
Bangalore-560 084.

PUBLIC NOTICE

General public are hereby informed that, our client **Sri.Santosh Kumar** has lost the original Sale deed dated 01-04-1991, registered as Document No.956/1991-92, in respect of property bearing S.No.508/2, situated at **Nanjapuram Village, Kothagonda Palli Taraf, Kelamangalam sub regn. District, Hosur Taluk, Krishnagiri Regn.** District, Dharmapuri District while taking Xerox at S.R.Nagar, Bangalore. If anybody found the said document please contact this Nos. **9844155041 and 9110600292**

V.S.Rai & Associates, LAW FIRM
No.23,"Venkatadri" 6th Main,
5th Cross, S.R.Nagar, Bangalore-27.

IN THE 89TH ADDL. COMMERCIAL COURT, AT BENGALURU
Commercial O.S. No. 215/2023 (CCH-90)
BETWEEN: GURU & JANA CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS, A Partnership Firm, Represented by its Partner Mr. Prashant KL, No. 41, Patalamma Temple Street, Basavanagudi, near South End Circle, Bengaluru, Karnataka - 560004. ... **PLAINTIFF**
And: 1. M/S COMPASSITES SOFTWARE SOLUTIONS PRIVATE LIMITED, Brigade Business Suites, No. 44, Flat No. 101, 1st Floor, 10th Main, 2nd Block, Jayanagar, Bangalore, Karnataka-560011 and Others ... **DEFENDANTS**
PUBLIC NOTICE
WHEREAS, the above named Plaintiff has filed the above Plaint under Order VII RULE 1 & 2 read with Section 26 of the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 before the Hon'ble Commercial Court at Bengaluru, (Comm O.S No. 215/2023) praying to direct the aforesaid Defendant No. 1 to make the payment towards the outstanding invoices raised during the period February 2021 to May 2021 with respect to the monthly compliance and annual return under the law on goods and services, transfer pricing documentation under Income-Tax Act, 1961 and advisory under the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999 for the sum of Rs. 4,54,300/- (Four Lakhs Fifty-Four Thousand and Three Hundred Only) along with the interest under applicable law from the date when the payment was due until the date of actual payment in the interest of justice and equity.
The Defendants in the present case are hereby called to appear before this Court in person or through their pleader as duly instructed, on **26/07/2023** at 11.AM., show cause against the Plaintiff, wherein failing such appearance, the petition will be heard as decided ex-parte.
Given under my hand & seal of this court on 4-7-23.
By order of the Court, Sheristedar, City Civil Court, Bengaluru.
Address of Service: **Mahima Dasain,** Advocate No. 41, Patalamma Temple Street, Basavanagudi, Near South End Circle, Bengaluru, Karanataka-560004. Contact: 9113612049

Your feedback will keep us Cleaner, Sharper and Bolder

Call our toll-free number
1800 102 1878
Or write to us at
customercare@thehindu.co.in
Scan the QR code to register your feedback

THE HINDU businessline.
FRONTLINE SPORTSTAR THE HINDU Young World THE HINDU

KURUKSHETRA UNIVERSITY KURUKSHETRA
(Established by the State Legislature Act XII of 1956)
('A+' Grade, NAAC Accredited)

EXTENSION OF LAST DATE FOR SUBMISSION OF ONLINE APPLICATION FORMS FOR ADMISSIONS TO M.TECH. PROGRAMMES OF THE UNIVERSITY TEACHING DEPARTMENTS/INSTITUTES FOR THE SESSION 2023-24.

Last date for submission of online Application Forms for Admissions to M.Tech. in: (i) Bio Tech.; (ii) Computer Engg.; (iii) Computer Science and Engg.; (iv) Electronics & Communication Engg.; (v) Mechanical Engg. (Industrial & Production); (vi) Mechanical Engg. (Thermal); (vii) Defence Technology; (viii) Electrical Engg.; (ix) Electrical & Instrumentation Engg.; (x) Energy and Environmental Management; (xi) Microelectronics & VLSI Design for the session 2023-24 being run on the University Campus has been extended upto 17.07.2023 (23:59 hrs.) without late fee. Handbook of Information (HBI-23) and revised admission schedule for these programmes are available on the University website and Admission Portal.

Interested candidates are advised to visit University website: www.kuk.ac.in and admission portal: **https://iums.kuk.ac.in/anon_admissionHome.htm.**

REGISTRAR

1238/11/63/2024/19269/199/29

SAI
SPORTS AUTHORITY OF INDIA
NETAJI SUBHAS SOUTHERN CENTRE, BENGALURU
Date: 10.07.2023
ADVERTISEMENT
The applications are invited for Empanelment of Advocates for representing SAI at various Courts i.e CAT, High Court, in all Tribunals and Subordinate Courts on behalf of Sports Authority of India, Netaji Subhash Southern Centre, Bengaluru. Last date of submission of the application is 24/07/2023.
For details please visit http://saibengaluru.com and https://sportsauthorityofindia.nic.in
SAI reserves all the rights to withdraw this advertisement at any time without assigning any reason. For any recruitment related query, e-mail to jobs.saibangalore@gmail.com.
Sd/-
Regional Director I/C
Sports Authority of India
NSSC Bengaluru

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY G20
TENDER NOTICE No. 16/2023 Dated : 07/07/2023
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tender through IREPS only for supply of following items: **Tender Closing Time: 10:30 Hrs.**

Sl.	Tender No.	Description in Brief	Qty.	Tender Due on
1	60232081	Joggled Fish Plates with C clamps 60kg	11820 Set	14.07.2023
2	17231076	Gear case Assembly kit Consisting 8 items	84 Set	21.07.2023
3	30231250	Kit of Brake Gear Bushes for brake cylinder	567 Set	12.07.2023
4	29222042A	Battery (Ni)Cd) for 3 Phase Locomotive	09 Set	25.07.2023
5	L3235383	IGBT inverter based portable plasma system	05 Nos	13.07.2023
6	L3235385	Shock absorber testing Machine for LHB	01 No.	13.07.2023
7	60232015	Derailing Switches 1 in 8.5 - 52 Kg	131 Set	21.07.2023
8	60232074	PSC Sleeper Set for 1 in 12 - 60 Kg	81 Set	31.07.2023
9	60232052	10mm thick Composite GRSP	1896245 Nos	17.07.2023
10	60236594	Combination Fish Plates 60Kg 52Kg rails	2000 Set	14.07.2023
11	60232017	10125 mm thick web curved switches	590 Set	14.07.2023
12	60235073A	Combination SFJ 60Kg 52Kg	121 Set	24.07.2023
13	38231398A	Slack Adjuster Complete IRSA 600	404 Nos	31.07.2023
14	38231327	Side Frame key for Narrow and Wide Jaw	26081 Nos	26.07.2023
15	60232055	PSC Sleeper Set for 1 in 8.5 - 60Kg	73 Set	02.08.2023
16	30231422	Direct mounted Double row spherical Roller Bearing	300 Nos	31.07.2023
17	17231039	Journal Bearing Assembly CTRB	107 Nos	02.08.2023
18	17231577	Potentiometer with cable to KBI Part No 772831	155 Nos	04.08.2023
19	38235003	One set of items for conversion of 256 wagons	1 Set	04.08.2023
20	33235027	Electro pneumatic pressurized flushing system	260 Nos	04.08.2023
21	60234149	PSC Sleeper set for SEJ 52Kg/60 Kg	868 Set	08.08.2023
22	60235115	Hydaulic oils of 05 types (make: Shell)	7814 Ltrs	27.07.2023
23	25231001	Metalised Carbon Strips for pantograph	434 Set	04.08.2023
24	42235001	Roof Mounted Package Unit complete	6 Nos	01.08.2023

For tender no. 17231389 of notice no 15/2023, Due Date changed from 03.07.2023 to 14.07.2023.
For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in
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UNBELIEVABLE

The second happiest moment of my life, says Svitolina

Ukraine's Elina Svitolina, who won an epic Wimbledon duel with Victoria Azarenka, described it as the "second happiest moment" of her life after the birth of her daughter. "I think after giving birth to our daughter this is the second-happiest moment in my life. When I was down I heard you guys cheering for me and I almost wanted to cry."

BUSINESS END

Medvedev into first Wimbledon quarters after Lehecka quits

World number three Daniil Medvedev reached his first Wimbledon quarter-final on Monday after Czech opponent Jiri Lehecka retired with an injury. Medvedev was 6-4, 6-2 ahead when his 37th-ranked opponent, who had needed a medical timeout for a right foot injury, retired from their Court One clash.

ALL OPTIONS OPEN

Cummins refuses to guarantee Warner's place in rest of Ashes

Australia captain Pat Cummins insisted all options remained open as he refused to rule out dropping struggling opener David Warner in the Ashes series. Warner has signalled his intention to retire from Test duty against Pakistan at his Sydney home ground next year. But the 36-year-old may yet be denied the chance to go out on his own terms.

UNFAIR

People going overboard criticising Rohit's captaincy: Harbhajan

Harbhajan Singh feels people are going "overboard" with their criticism of Rohit Sharma's captaincy. "Team India didn't do well in WTC final, and yes, you talk about that performance and move on from there. But it is unfair to criticise Rohit alone, that he is not scoring runs, putting on weight. I think he is a brilliant leader," he said.

Eubanks scripts epic win over Tsitsipas; Djokovic advances

Defending champion Rybakina enters the quarterfinal after Maia retires with injury while trailing 1-4; Jabeur progresses to the last-eight downing Kvitova; teenager Andreeva's fairytale run ends as she fails to solve the Keys puzzle

WIMBLEDON

Agencies
LONDON

Stefanos Tsitsipas crashed out of Wimbledon, losing to unseeded American Christopher Eubanks after a thrilling five-set battle on Monday.

Eubanks lost the first set to the Greek fifth seed and trailed two sets to one but powered back to win 3-6, 7-6(4), 3-6, 6-4, 6-4.

Novak Djokovic reached the quarterfinals at the grass-court Major for the 14th time, beating Hubert Hurkacz 7-6(6), 7-6(6), 5-7, 6-4 in a match that started on Centre Court on Sunday.

Play was suspended because of the late hour curfew. On Monday, Hurkacz finally managed to win a set, using his strong serve to good effect. However, that proved the only bright point for him.

Djokovic reached the quarterfinals of a Grand Slam for the 56th time in his career, second only to Roger Federer's men's record (58). He will next face Andrey Rublev for a spot in the semifinals.

Ons Jabeur set up a quarterfinal repeat of last year's Wimbledon showpiece against Elena Rybakina after easing past former champion Petra Kvitova 6-0, 6-3 in a demolition job on Monday.

Russian teenager Mirra Andreeva had been showing her maturity throughout the first week at SW19, but things went awry in the new week.

She let a big lead over the 25th seed Madison Keys slip away in a 3-6, 7-6(4), 6-2 loss on the No. 2 Court.

Frustrated at one point, Andreeva threw her racket and received a warning from Swedish chair umpire Louise Azemar Engzell.

Keys will next play Aryna Sabalenka, who defeated No. 21 Ekaterina Alexandrova 6-4, 6-0.

Defending champion Elena Rybakina also reached the quarterfinals. She advanced after Beatriz Haddad Maia retired with a lower back injury with her opponent leading 4-1.

Late on Sunday, Iga Swiatek saved two match points while Elina Svitolina triumphed in a stormy, politically-charged duel with Victoria Azarenka and set up a quarterfinal showdown.

World No. 1 Swiatek beat Olympic champion Belinda Bencic 6-7(4), 7-6 (2), 6-3 on Centre Court. Swiatek, the reigning US Open and French Open champion, saved two match points in the 12th game of the second set before going on to book a place in the last eight for the first time.

Ukraine's Svitolina came from a set and break down to defeat Belarusian rival Azarenka 2-6, 6-4, 7-6 (11-9).

The day in numbers

46 Christopher Eubanks is the 46th American man (Open era) to reach the quarterfinals at SW19

2 This year's Wimbledon is only the second instance in the Open era when three Russian men (Medvedev, Rublev, Safiullin) have reached the quarterfinals of a Slam. It happened for the first time at the 2021 Australian Open (Medvedev, Rublev, Karatsev)

14 All four top seeds (Swiatek, Sabalenka, Rybakina, Pegula) have reached the quarterfinals at Wimbledon for the first time in 14 years (2009 - Dinara Safina, Serena Williams, Venus Williams, Elena Dementieva)

100 Djokovic is only the third man (Open era) after Federer (119) and Connors (102) to play 100 main draw matches at Wimbledon

TUESDAY'S QUARTERFINALS

MEN
- 1-Djokovic vs 7-Rublev
- 8-Sinner vs Safiullin

WOMEN
- 1-Swiatek vs Svitolina
- 4-Pegula vs Vondrousova

COMPILED BY NIHIT SACHDEVA

THE RESULTS

Men: Fourth round: 2-Djokovic (Srb) bt 17-Hurkacz (Hun) 7-6(6), 7-6(6), 5-7, 6-4; 3-Medvedev bt Lehecka (Cze) 6-4, 6-2 retd.; Eubanks (USA) bt 5-Tsitsipas 3-6, 7-6(4), 3-6, 6-4, 6-4.
Doubles: Second round: 6-Bopanna (Ind) & Ebden (Aus) bt Fearnley & Monday (GBr) 7-5, 6-3.
Women: Fourth round: 2-Sabalenka bt 21-Alexandrova 6-4, 6-0; 3-Rybakina (Kaz) bt 13-Haddad Maia (Bra) 4-1 retd.; 6-Jabeur (Tun) bt 9-Kvitova (Cze) 6-0, 6-3; 25-Keys (USA) bt Andreeva 3-6, 7-6(4), 6-2; 1-Swiatek (Pol) bt 14-Bencic (Sui) 6-7(4), 7-6(2), 6-3; Svitolina (Ukr) bt 19-Azarenka 2-6, 6-4, 7-6(9).

Alcaraz ahead
Alcaraz led two sets to one against Berrettini, winning the second and third sets byith a 6-3 scoreline after losing the first (3-6)

Lakshya takes the honours with a clinical and powerful display

CANADA OPEN

Press Trust of India
CALGARY

Lakshya Sen dished out a badminton masterpiece to notch up his second BWF Super 500 title with a 21-18, 22-20 win over Li Shi Feng of China in the final of the Canada Open here on Sunday.

The 21-year-old Indian, who had claimed his maiden Super 500 title at the 2022 India Open, mixed incredible speed and power to outshine reigning the All England champion Li.

This win will be a much-needed boost for Lakshya, who had slipped to World No. 19 after struggling to find his form early in the season.

The former World No. 6, who claimed bronze at the 2021 World Championships, had undergone nose surgery after the World Championships last August and took a lot of time to recover post-treatment.

In a battle of power and precision between the two youngsters, it was Lakshya who showed better control and temperament. He kept it tight at the net and produced a series of down-the-line and cross-court smashes to trouble Li who fell behind 2-6 at the start of the opening game.

400 kmph thunderbolts!

The duo played a high-speed game, dishing out some eye-catching jump smashes. While Li sent down two 390kmph smashes, Lakshya unleashed a couple of 400 kmph thunderbolts.

At the mid-game interval, Lakshya managed to hold a three-point cushion after Li failed to negotiate a body return from the Indian.

Both players sent down a series of hard smashes from the back to gather points but unforced errors saw Li trail 12-15. He managed to level at 15-15 but Lakshya grabbed three game points with another trademark straight smash. Another precise return on his opponent's forehand helped him earn the bragging rights.

The Chinese waited for his opportunity, engaging Lakshya in some sensational rallies at the net in the second game and pounced on anything weak from the Indian. He grabbed the momentum after an initial duel which left them at 5-5 to soon enter the break with a four-point lead.

Though Lakshya changed his tactics and made it 13-14 at one stage, the Chinese managed to move ahead and grab four game points.

However, Lakshya showed his grit as a forehand body smash was followed by another hard smash. Li then faltered at the net and Lakshya followed it with another smash to level the score.

Another rally ended with a precise return on Li's forehand and it was advantage Lakshya. The Indian sealed it with another power-packed smash in the end.

Smashing success: Lakshya unleashed thunderbolts when needed to seize the advantage from Li. BWF

Women in Blue look to seal series

Time to turn it around: Shafali will be eager to put up a better display with the bat in the second T20I. BCCI WOMEN TWITTER

INDIA IN BANGLADESH

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
MIRPUR

Shafali Verma would like to make an impact with the bat after a poor show in the opener as the Indian women aim to clinch the three-match T20I series against Bangladesh with another dominant performance in the second game here on Tuesday.

India cruised to a seven-wicket win in the first match on Sunday with skipper Harmanpreet Kaur blazing her way to an unbeaten 35-ball 54 and Smriti Mandhana making 38.

Debutants Anusha Bareddy and Minnu Mani, too, gave a good account of themselves. Shafali was out for a three-ball duck.

Her last half-century in T20Is came last year in the home series against Australia. Shafali will look to turn things around on Tuesday.

Match starts at 1.30 p.m. IST.

India eyes a fresh start in Tests against a struggling West Indies

INDIA IN WEST INDIES

Agence France-Presse
ROSEAU (DOMINICA)

India's latest quest for an elusive World Test Championship title gets underway on Wednesday at the Windsor Park Stadium in Dominica against a West Indies team which is expected to struggle against the formidable challenge presented by the visitors in the two-match series.

Rocked by the failure of the two-time winner to qualify for the ODI World Cup in India, the Caribbean cricket community is unlikely to find solace in Kraigg Brathwaite's side.

WTC final in 2025

The series, which ends in Trinidad the following week in what will be the 100th Test between the two teams, marks the start of the next two-year WTC cycle leading to the final in 2025. Beaten by New Zealand in the inaugural final in 2021 and outplayed by Australia in the 2023 decider, Rohit Sharma's team is likely to have no more than three changes to the side.

With veteran batter Cheteshwar Pujara dropped and pacer Mohammed Shami rested, there are now opportunities for either of the uncapped Yashasvi Jaiswal or Ruturaj Gaikwad to make the No. 3 spot their own.

Jaydev Unadkat or Navdeep Saini will fill the breach in the fast bowling department.

Ashwin's chance

R. Ashwin, unlucky to have been omitted from the WTC final against Australia, will get an opportunity to add to his already impressive record against the West Indies.

In 11 Tests against the opponent, he has taken 60 wickets and compiled four of his five Test centuries while averaging just over 50 with the bat.

Following the Tests, both squads will then undergo significant personnel changes for the white-ball formats which involve three ODIs and a five-match T20I series.

New cycle, new hopes: India will look to go all the way in the WTC this time. TWITTER/@BCCI

Lakshya terms the triumph as one of his 'greatest comebacks'

Press Trust of India
CALGARY

Describing the Canada Open victory as one the "greatest comebacks" in his nascent career, Lakshya Sen on Monday said the win against the reigning All England Li Shi Feng Champion gives him confidence and belief in the Olympic qualification year.

"Coming into the Olympic qualification year, it was tough as things didn't go my way.

"So this will be one of the good tournaments for me and playing the finals like this is for me one of the greatest comebacks," said Lakshya.

"He (Li) is a tough opponent, always expect a good match against him. The way I played today, I was dominating the net and he was also attacking. But I managed to win the crucial points," added Lakshya.

Lakshya. TWITTER/LAKSHYA_SEN

"I won't say it is a relief, I still have to play a lot of tournaments but this win will give me big motivation that I am doing the right thing and belief in my process," he said.

"There are a lot of tournaments, I will just take the positives from this one. Now that my health issues are sorted, I just want to remain injury free and fit for the good season ahead."

INBRIEF

Corpuz wins U.S. Women's Open; Aditi finishes tied 33rd

Allisen Corpuz became the first American in 20 years to make the U.S. Women's Open her first LPGA title, closing with a 3-under 69 at Pebble Beach on Sunday and handling her historic moment as if she had been there before. Corpuz won by three shots over Charley Hull (66) and Jiyai Shin (68) to claim the $2 million prize. Aditi Ashok, playing her record 25th Major, finished tied 33rd.

Rakshitha finishes fifth in 1500m final at Para Worlds

Vision-impaired Rakshitha Raju finished fifth in the T11 category 1500m final in the Para Athletics World Championships in Paris on Monday. The 2018 Para Asian Games gold medalist clocked 5:24.95s in the race won by Kenya's Nancy Chelangat Koech in a championship record time of 4:46.55. South Africa's Louzanne Coetzee (4:48.13) and Koech's compatriot Mary Waithera Njoroge (4:49.16) claimed silver and bronze respectively.

India's campaign ends in the Asian junior badminton

India suffered a 3-1 loss to Indonesia in the quarterfinals of the Badminton Asia Junior Championships in Yogyakarta, Indonesia on Monday. Individual campaign begins on July 12.

The results: Indonesia bt India 3-1 (Adrian Pratama & Felisha Alberta Nathaniel Pasaribu bt Samarveer & Radhika Sharma 21-16, 21-15; Alwi Farhan bt Ayush Shetty 18-21, 21-15, 21-19; Ruzana lost to Rakshitha Sree Santhosh Ramraj 18-21, 21-10, 21-23; Muhammad Al Farizi & Nikolaus Joaquin bt Divyam Arora & Mayank Rana 21-10, 15-21, 21-12).

Top female quartermiler fails dope test

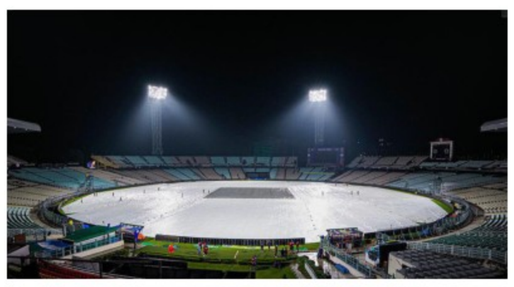
Indian athletics appears to be in big doping trouble with the Asian Championships in Bangkok just a couple of days away. After shot putter Karanveer Singh was dropped from the Indian team for the Asians after failing a dope test, there is talk that a top female quartermiler has also tested positive and has been handed a provisional suspension. A leading woman sprinter from the South is also under provisional suspension for failing a dope test.

Cameron Smith clinches LIV Golf-London title

British Open champion Cameron Smith held on to win his first golf tournament of the year at Hemel Hempstead (England) on Sunday, closing with a 3-under 68 to clinch the LIV Golf-London by one shot over Patrick Reed and Marc Leishman. The victory came less than two weeks before Smith defends his British Open title at Royal Liverpool.

AFI adjudged Asia's best athletics federation

The Athletics Federation of India has been adjudged as the best member federation in Asia by the Asian Athletics Association. Olympian Adille Sumariwalla, the AFI president, received the award at the 50th anniversary celebrations of the AAA in Bangkok on Monday.



Eden ticket rates announced for World Cup matches

A ticket for the marquee World Cup semifinal match at Eden Gardens will cost a minimum ₹900, the Cricket Association of Bengal (CAB) said on Monday. Tickets for the India-South Africa game and the semifinal would be in the range of ₹900 (upper tier) to ₹3000 (B, L Blocks). The other two denominations for the two matches would be ₹1500 (D, H Blocks) and ₹2500 (C, K Blocks). For Pakistan's two fixtures against England and Bangladesh, the tickets will be ₹800 (upper tier), ₹1200 (D, H), Rs 2000 (C, K) and ₹2200 (B, L).

Dipa's return headlines Asiad selection trials

Olympian Pranati Nayak will look to seal a spot in the squad along with a few others like Yogeshwar, Patra, Ashish, Mondal, Tamboli, Pranati Das and Protistha

GYMNASTICS

Y.B. Sarangi
BHUBANESWAR

Rio 2016 Olympics' fourth-place finisher in vault Dipa Karmakar's return to competitive gymnastics will be the biggest highlight of the two-day selection trials for the Asian Games starting at the Kalinga Stadium here on Tuesday.

The Tripura gymnast, whose 21-month suspension for a positive dope test ended on July 10, has reportedly been training for the last few months with an aim to make a comeback in the continental extravaganza.

It will be interesting to see how the World Cup, Commonwealth Games and Asian championships medallist Dipa, who struggled with injuries for some time and will turn 30 next month, tackles the challenge of competing with younger gymnasts.

Comeback trail: Dipa Karmakar would want to make her return a memorable one. FILE PHOTO

An Asian medallist and a vault specialist like Dipa, Olympian Pranati Nayak, who gave a below par performance in the Asian championships in Singapore last month, will try to improve her showing and stake her claim in the Asian Games squad. A mix of young and experience, including Yogeshwar Singh, Rakesh Patra, Ashish Kumar, Satyajit Mondal, Saif Tamboli, Pranati Das and Protistha Samata, will also seek to earn Asiad berths.

A total of 39 male and female gymnasts have been shortlisted for the trials.

Apart from selecting the Asiad squad, Gymnastics Federation of India will also pick core probables for National camps and upcoming international competitions.

Rudransh sets a WR on way to pistol gold

PARA SHOOTING

Press Trust of India
OSIJEK

India para-shooters Rudransh Khandelwal and Nihal Singh won the gold and silver in the P4 Mixed 50m pistol SH1 category at the World Shooting Para Sport World Cup on Monday.

The 16-year-old Rudransh created a world record, shooting 231.1 in the final, while Nihal shot 222.2 to finish second.

Rudransh broke the world record of Khel Ratna awardee Manish Narwal, who won gold at the 2020 Tokyo Paralympic Games.

In the R3 Mixed 10m air rifle prone SH1 event, India's paralympic gold medallist at the Tokyo Olympics, Avani Lekhara finished sixth with a score of 168. Avani had earlier won gold in the R2 10M Air Rifle SH1 category.

Gold for Unhalkar

Swaroop Unhalkar, too, had bagged a gold medal with a score of 245.9 in men's 10m air rifle standing SH1 beating Hungarian competitor Csaba Rescsik by a difference of 0.9 points.

Humpy to spearhead India's challenge

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

India will send a strong 10-member chess contingent for the Asian Games scheduled in Hangzhou from September 23. Vidit Gujrathi and Arjun Erigaisi in the men's and Humpy and Harika in the women's sections will compete in the individual categories.

The team for Asian Games:
Men: D. Gukesh, Vidit Gujrathi, Arjun Erigaisi, P. Harikrishna and R Praggnanandhaa.
Women: K. Humpy, D. Harika, R Vaishali, Vantika Aggarwal and Savitha Shri.

Gukesh finishes fifth; Anand ends tied seventh in Blitz

GRAND CHESS TOUR

Press Trust of India
ZAGREB

Young Indian Grandmaster D. Gukesh finished fifth while his illustrious compatriot Viswanathan Anand managed a tied seventh place in the third leg of the 2023 SuperUnited Rapid and Blitz chess tournament.

Gukesh, who had a moderate performance on day one of the Blitz segment, bounced back well on the second day to pick up 6.5 points which included wins over Anand and top players like Fabiano Caruana (USA) and Jan-Krzysztof Duda (Poland).

Gukesh, who beat Anand for the first time ever in tournament play in the Rapid segment, got the better of the five-time world champion in 34 moves in the blitz on Sunday.

The 17-year old Indian star began the second day of the Blitz section with a win over Richard Rapport (Romania) and then stunned the highly-rated Caruana.

After going down to World No. 1 Magnus Carlsen (Norway), Gukesh turned the tables on Anand.

A defeat to Alireza Firouzja was followed by three straight wins – over Constantin Lupulescu (Romania), Duda and Ivan Saric (Croatia).

He ended the tournament with a draw against Ian Nepomniachtchi and a score of 19.5 points (Rapid + Blitz).

Poor run

Anand, who had started the tourney in style in the Rapid segment, had to endure a poor run, scoring only three points on day one of the Blitz and then logged 3.5 points on the second day. The veteran Indian ended with 16.5 points.

The Grand Chess Tour is a circuit of international events, featuring the world's best players.

Dube in West squad for Deodhar Trophy

Press Trust of India
MUMBAI

India and Mumbai all-rounder Shivam Dube was on Monday included in the 15-member West Zone squad while fast bowler Tushar Deshpande was among the standby players for the Deodhar Trophy, beginning on July 24.

The upcoming edition of the inter-zonal 50-over event will be held this year in Puducherry from July 24 to August 3.

Nitish Rana of Delhi will lead the North Zone team. Rana, who had led Kolkata Knight Riders in the IPL 2023, will be eager to make an impression and return to the national reckoning.

The squads: West Zone: Priyank Panchal (Capt.), Prithvi Shaw, Rahul Tripathi, Harvik Desai, Het Patel, Sarfaraz Khan, Ankit Bawne, Samarth Vyas, Shivam Dube, Atit Seth, Parth Bhut, Shams Mulani, Arzan Nagwaswalla, Chintan Gaja and Rajvardhan Hangargekar. **Standbyes:** Chetan Sakariya, Tushar Deshpande, Yuvraj Dodiya, Abu Kazi and Kathan Patel.

North Zone: Nitish Rana (Capt.), Abhishek Sharma, Prabhsimran Singh, S.G. Rohilla, S. Khajuria, Mandeep Singh, Himanshu Rana, Vivrant Sharma, Nishant Sindhu, Rishi Dhawan, Yudhvir Singh, Sandeep Sharma, Harshit Rana, Vaibhav Arora and Mayank Markande. **Standbyes:** Mayank Dagar, Mayank Yadav, Arslan Khan, Shubham Arora, Yuvraj Singh, Manan Vohra, Aqib Nabi and Shivank Vashisht.

Reward

Triple jumper T. Selva Prabhu with the best Asian men's under-20 award from the Asian Athletics Association in Bangkok on Monday.

Rich reward: Bhajan, left, and Salunkhe, right, with Indian high performance director and Dronacharya Awardee Sanjeeva Singh. PTI

Salunkhe wards off In Jun, strikes gold

ARCHERY

Sports Bureau

Top-ranked Parth Salunkhe warded off a strong challenge from Korean Song In Jun 7-3 in the final to become the recurve under-21 men's individual champion in the World youth archery in Limerick, Ireland, on Sunday. He is the first Indian man to achieve the feat.

Fighting back twice, Salunkhe hit the bull's eye twice to beat the Korean for the world title.

Earlier, he received two byes and got the better of Czech Republic's Richard Krejci 7-1, Turkey's Mustafa Ozdemir 6-5 (9*-9, shot closer to the centre), Chinese Taipei's Yang Kai-Han 6-4 and Germany's Mathias Kramer 6-4.

Bronze for Bhajan

Bhajan Kaur defeated Chinese Taipei's Su Hsin-yu 7-1 to take the women's under-21 individual bronze.

The Indians claimed the most number of medals – a total of 11 including six gold, one silver and four bronze. India finished second behind Korea, which won six gold and four silver medals.

The results: Recurve: Individual: Men: Gold medal match: Parth Salunkhe bt Song In Jun (Kor) 7-3 (26-26, 25-28, 28-26, 29-26, 28-26). **Women: Bronze medal match:** Bhajan Kaur bt Su Hsin-yu (Tpe) 7-1.

BENGALURU ROUND-UP

BFC signs Salam Johnson Singh

Bengaluru FC, on Monday, announced the signing of attacker Salam Johnson Singh on a three-year deal until 2026.

The 21-year-old, who most recently represented for Tiddim Road Athletic Union FC (TRAU FC) in the I-League, has previously turned out for Lonestar Kashmir FC and East Bengal U-18s.

The Manipur native, who began his career at the SAI Centre in Guwahati, scored five goals and one assist for TRAU in the 2022-23 I-League, helping his team finish fourth.

Arya's unbeaten double ton highlights Cambridge CC's big win

Arya J. Gowda's unbeaten double century (208 n.o.) helped Cambridge CC thrash Palace Orchard CC by 270 runs in the KSCA (Group I) under-16 inter-club tournament.

The scores: Cambridge CC 375/2 in 50 overs (Rennell Pais 60, Arya J. Gowda 208 n.o., Manish Benjamin John 66) bt Palace Orchard CC 105 in 26.1 overs (Ajay 25 n.o.).

Jawahar SC (1) 270/9 in 50 overs (M.C. Mourya 105, Om Jakati 69, Sarvajnha Shetty 3/48) bt Malleswaram Gymkhana 183 in 45.4 overs (A.C. Aryan 31, Krushik Krishna 3/40).

Victory CC 111/3 in 20 overs (Aarush Sinha 40) lost to BUCC (1) 114/5 in 20 overs (Adhrit Rao 57, Shaurya Murali Ramanath 26, D. Chiranth 3/17)[Match revised to 20 overs per side because of rain].

Jawahar SC (2) 221/6 in 45 overs (Hruday Gowda 28, Shamanth 32, H. Sampath Kumar Bevoor 37 n.o., D. Nishanth 60 n.o.) bt Cavaliers CC 162 in 37.3 overs (Raj Aryan 66, M.S. Kunal 37, D. Nishanth 4/32) [Match revised to 45 overs per side because of rain].

FUCC (1) 409/7 in 50 overs (Devansh Joshi 58, V. Srithan 107, A.A. Rohith 115 n.o., B. Sharvesh Kulothungan 46) bt Blue Diamond Cricketers 98 in 39.1 overs (Sai Kritin Yedidi 3/23, B. Sharvesh Kulothungan 3/21).

Herons CC 228 in 48.5 overs (Adil 46, R. Pruthvi Raj 66, S. Tejas 3/46) lost to Engrades CC 232/7 in 47.2 overs (S. Shivaprasad 110 n.o., Arpith Rajeev Naganand 32).

Vijaya CC 276/5 in 50 overs (K.P. Ahan 25, Dhruv Krishnan 88, Anvay Dravid 41, Shaurya Manish 25, Aniketh Reddy 50 n.o., Hrishikesh Holla 3/44) bt Jayanagar United Cricketers 85 in 32 overs (Anirudh Deepak 5/23).

Bangalore Occasionals 175/5 in 37 overs (Devanjan Sarkar 32, C. Barath 46 n.o., Ayaan Sharmod Kumar 51 n.o., S. Adhithyan 4/12) bt Minerva CC 126/9 in 27 overs (B. Krithin 3/29) [Match first revised to 37 overs per side because of rain and target was later revised to 127 from 27 overs following another interruption].

Young Challenging Cricketers 172 in 48 overs (Ashrith S. Reddy 37, Jayeesh Kumaresan 48, K.K. Sebastien Kenny 3/23, Shreyam Barman 4/18) lost to Modern CC 173/5 in 33.2 overs (Ankush Anuashok 59 n.o.).

Merchants CC (1) 117 in 30 overs (C.V. Vidhur Reddy 3/28, A.N. Pradyumna 3/18) lost to Chintamani SA 118/3 in 23.1 overs (A.N. Pradyumna 72 n.o.).

Arya J. Gowda (Cambridge CC, 208 n.o.).

Salam Johnson Singh...new challenge beckons

Vijayanagar FC to meet Veterans FC for the honours

Vijayanagar FC defeated Juno FC 5-4 on penalties to enter the final of the BDFA C-division league here on Monday. After regulation time, the score was tied at 2-2. In the summit clash, Vijayanagar will take on Veterans FC, which defeated Pillana Garden FC 5-2.

The results (semifinals): Veterans FC 5 (B. Ramesh 23, 45, Mahesh Bahadur 30, K. Stephen 36, U. Abinash 54) bt Pillanna Garden FC 2 (Mugilan 22, Pradeep Kumar 44); Vijayanagar FC 2 (Abil Kumar Bauri 24, Arun Naskar 58) bt Juno FC 2 (Preetham Keelara 1, M. Mahesh 59) [5-4 on penalties].

Five-a-side football tournament

An All-India five-a-side football tournament will be held on August 26 and 27 at FC Deccan grounds. The league-cum-knockout tournament is open for all schools, clubs, groups, academies and associations, and those born 2008 onward will be eligible.

Alongside, a women's five-a-side competition will also be held on August 27 at the same venue.

Entries close on August 4. For details, email: denzsports@gmail.com / call: 8095810030.

LIVE TELECAST

Bangladesh Women vs India Women: 2nd T20I, FanCode, 1.30 p.m.

Bangladesh vs Afghanistan: 3rd ODI, FanCode, 1.30 p.m.

The Championships: Star Sports 2, SS Select 1, 2 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 3.30 p.m. onwards